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From the Director

75 Years!

In 2015–2016, Dumbarton Oaks celebrated its first three-quarters of a century as a research institute. We took many measures to guarantee a properly pyrotechnic commemoration. To single out only a few, we staged special exhibitions in the garden, the research library, and, most elaborately, the museum, with a rolling display of seventy-five objects. On the web, we shared that same number of posts on a Dumbarton Oaks anniversary blog. One major means of signaling our coming of age was a Wintersession course for Harvard undergraduates on the topic of “Culture and Power: Art, Philanthropy, and Diplomacy in America,” which was initiated in 2015 and repeated in January 2016. The anniversary happiness was highlighted by a special concert to mark the official date of our institutional birth. The evening of song and speeches featured a composition commissioned for the occasion from Caroline Shaw, who, in the preceding year, had inaugurated a residency for early-career musicians. In 2015–2016, the new program built on its success with a second resident, Matthew Aucoin.

What exactly did all the hoopla mark and mean? On November 1, 1940, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss hosted a black-tie reception to solemnize two interconnected events. First, they commenced their four-step transfer of their estate to Harvard. In this initial stage, they conveyed to the university both the physical grounds of Dumbarton Oaks and a generous portion of the funds. Second, they founded a study program in Byzantine art and culture. Out of modesty, the donors forwent any naming opportunity, but they laid out with great rigor the causes that impassioned them. In doing so, they embedded a cultural institution within a facility for higher learning.
The humanities and arts specialize in transmitting all sorts of things across time. Thanks to libraries and teaching, Dumbarton Oaks likewise stores and increases knowledge and memory. We safeguard funds in endowments and objects in museums. Perhaps most importantly, we perpetuate positive passions across decades and even centuries. Love of the past, other cultures, and beauty is more needed than ever. It is the best corrective to self-contented and self-righteous ignorance, which is the night soil that fertilizes seedbeds for misunderstanding, suspicion, and hate. In contrast to the lazy easiness of unknowingness, love and knowledge require and display true strength and discipline.

At the celebratory concert, Dumbarton Oaks brought together fellows and staff from within our community. From outside, we gathered old friends and new. Among these friends and allies could be counted cultural attachés, close supporters from law and architecture, faculty members from DC-area universities, and directors and staff of museums, institutes, and associations. Special appreciation was owed to cherished colleagues in teaching and administration from Harvard who made the trek from Massachusetts to DC. Those loyalists included Diana Sorensen, who would later step down from the deanship in Arts and Humanities; Mathilda van Es, associate dean of the same division; and colleagues from the faculty John Duffy, Ioli Kalavrezou, and Michael Puett. One final name that bears mentioning is Peter Riley, who helped realize the dream to acquire and renovate a building at 1700 Wisconsin Avenue NW. Now the Fellowship House, that beautiful building has enabled such new programming as the Early-Career Musician Residency. I cannot imagine a more amicable or appropriate group of people with whom to have fêted a special day, or a more fitting location, since the reception following the concert took place in the new building.

The festivities were deeply rooted in the essence of Dumbarton Oaks. By the intent of the founders, their former estate has become an inspiringly and elegantly complex place. Our establishment serves and preserves the humanities and arts. As both real and metaphoric gardeners, we cultivate cultures that we are charged to protect and propagate through such disciplines as art history, history, and philology. At the same time, we endeavor to benefit international and national communities, Washington, and Harvard. The balancing act can become demanding but it is unfailingly rewarding. Owing to
the library and collections, Dumbarton Oaks attracts ever more residential fellows and other scholars in Byzantine, Pre-Columbian, and Garden and Landscape studies. It sponsors lectures and conferences, summer schools, and other such events. It publishes major books. In a delicate equilibrium, the institution opens to the public its museum and formal gardens. It hosts monthly concerts. In all these ambitions, we aspire to be what one visitor described as “God’s temple, and a tribute to beauty.”

The overarching theme for the anniversary was “Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future.” Under that heading, our website stated, “The United States was struggling to emerge from a prolonged economic downturn. Europe had to contend with extremist groups that made the future deeply worrisome. The humanities were the last thing on the minds of most people.” Those words transport us to 1940–1941, the first year in which Dumbarton Oaks operated under the aegis of Harvard University, after its gift by the donors. While celebrating the three-quarters of a century during which we have supported our special slices of the humanities and arts, we pondered the state of our fields through three lenses: how did they look on the eve of the Second World War, what is their current condition, and what prospects do they have in coming years?

What did our donors believe? From the vantage point of one-half decade later, Robert Bliss wrote in the forty-fifth anniversary report of Harvard’s class of 1900: “As the depression increased and Nazism gained control of Germany we knew war was a certainty and that inevitably this country would be sucked into the cataclysm. So we faced the future squarely and decided to transfer Dumbarton Oaks to the University in 1940. To ease the wrench, we assured each other . . . that to give up our home at our own time to assure the long range realization of our plan was the way of wisdom. Thus we are enjoying the transformation of Dumbarton Oaks into an institution—the only one of its particular sort in existence.” These powerful words still ring true.

Between 1940 and now, the museum world, diplomats, journalists, and broader circles of Washington have become ever better acquainted with Dumbarton Oaks, and we with them. For the success of the January Wintersession course, we were grateful for collaborations with the National Gallery of Art, Smithsonian museums, Phillips Collection, George Washington University and Textile Museums, Hillwood Estate, Museum, and Gardens, Kreeger Museum,
and others. We were likewise grateful to area public schools for shaping formal bonds with us that enabled school visits to our gardens.

Thanks to prudent management by Harvard, thinking back on seven and a half decades makes me only more optimistic about the future. We can look forward to many more anniversaries. The institution is poised for even bolder advances. By improving residential housing and increasing library study areas, we have positioned ourselves to benefit more deserving individuals than ever. We aim to achieve greater outreach, to share the knowledge and beauty of which we are fortunate stewards, and to perpetuate the fields we embody. In strengthening ourselves to serve the future, we will forsake nothing that has made this institution the special place it has been. To hear the festive birthday concert, we sat in the McKim, Mead & White–designed Music Room, where the 1926 grand piano signed by Paderewski stands as a monument. Taken together, all the edifices and grounds, objects, and staff, fellows, and visitors of Dumbarton Oaks function as an integrated whole to support our mission. The basis for this totality was three loves—love between two people, love for a place they made, and love for a cause, which can be put most simply as the humanities and arts. These positives remain embedded in our nature.

A large mosaic that graces the floor of the foyer at the entrance of the main complex depicts a woman flourishing a flower. It proclaims in Greek *Apólausis*, meaning enjoyment. A great historian of late antiquity, Peter Brown, defines this concept as “the shared enjoyment of the good things in life . . . a precious collective ritual, a celebration of the will to survive.” This time and place defy facile comparison with Antioch in late antiquity, but on the evening of the concert we heeded the mosaic by enjoying and celebrating together. As any birthday party should do, the concert mixed new and old. Like Dumbarton Oaks as a totality, it channeled the past through the present into the future. The Dover Quartet played the world premiere of Caroline Shaw’s Dumbarton Oaks commission, *Plan & Elevation (The Grounds of Dumbarton Oaks)*. Afterward we savored the strains of Mozart’s viola quintet in C minor. My gratitude knows no bounds, to the Dover Quartet for performing, to all who were present for being in the Music Room to hear, to the Blisses and my university for making it all imaginable, and to the colleagues who labor tirelessly to bring to fruition our distinct and distinctive share in the dreams of the humanities and arts. Enjoy!
75th Anniversary Overview

Dumbarton Oaks was officially inaugurated on November 1, 1940, and its 75th Anniversary has provided an occasion for celebration, reflection, and initiatives looking to the future. No sooner was the ink dry on the paperwork to finalize the Blisses’ transfer of Dumbarton Oaks to Harvard University, than Robert wrote Mildred a congratulatory note, proclaiming that the newly founded research library and collection would stand as “a delight to all who visit it and a great resource to those who are fortunate enough to work there.” Three-quarters of a century later, the research institute, museum, and gardens continue to serve as both delight and resource.

Festivities began with a gala celebration on the day of the anniversary. Director Jan Ziolkowski observed in remarks delivered before a concert and reception: “If ever we needed to ensure that learners were exposed to different modes of expression and interpretation, and to art and scripture from outside their own heritages, it would be now. And so here we stand, those of us in the humanities and arts, ready as ever to contribute, eager as ever to engage with new publics in new media by interrogating afresh old and new beauty alike.” The concert featured the debut of a new work by composer, singer, and violinst Caroline Shaw, who was Dumbarton Oaks’s first Early-Career Musician in 2014–2015. Titled Plan & Elevation (The Grounds of Dumbarton Oaks), the piece was inspired by the composer’s residency in the Dumbarton Oaks research community, and each of its five movements evoked a different area of the gardens. The Dover String
Quartet performed the composition alongside Mozart’s sprightly second viola quintet, with Shaw on viola. The concert was followed by a festive reception in the Oak Room of the new Fellowship Building.

A number of digital projects marked the anniversary online, in a bid to make the institution’s history and contributions to scholarship accessible to a wider community. The Dumbarton Oaks 75th Anniversary Blog assembled a vast amount of material on aspects of the institution’s past. Seventy-five posts, two per week, ranging from the property’s colonial-era history to its modern lunchtimes, were published between September and May. In the online exhibit entitled Garden Perspectives, a swipe of the mouse seamlessly transformed historical photos of the gardens into modern views from exactly the same vantage point. (The exhibit took material form in the Catalogue House of the garden, not far from the cherry trees.) An ongoing
initiative solicited materials relating to Dumbarton Oaks’s history from the public at large.

The museum marked the anniversary with an ambitious rotating exhibition, *75 Years/75 Objects*, that placed a spotlight not only on some of its most remarkable works of art but also on the ways in which the museum engages with them to advance the public’s understanding of curation and scholarship. Each month adopted as its thematic lens a verb—Researching, Reconstructing, Collecting, Reinterpreting, Conserving, Reuniting, Pondering, Questioning, and Revealing—that captured essential aspects of the curators’ work to bring artworks to life. Over the course of nine months, seventy-five objects were featured, ranging from some of the museum’s most famous pieces (such as the Birthing Figure) to some of its least known, such as a photograph owned by the Blisses of a New York nightclub called *Dumbarton Oaks*! The museum also held a special conference, “Private Collecting and Public Display: Art Museums in the Nation’s Capital in the Early Twentieth Century,” which set Dumbarton Oaks’s formation in the local context of the many museums and cultural institutions created by philanthropists around the same time.
All three study programs staged events to assess the state of their respective fields between Dumbarton Oaks’s founding and the present, ranging from panel discussions among fellows, staff, and institutional affiliates (Byzantine Studies), to invited lectures (Pre-Columbian Studies), to special discussion sessions at the College Art Association and the Society of Architectural Historians annual meetings (Garden and Landscape Studies). The study programs also canvassed former fellows, affiliates, and staff to compile an online bibliography of influential books and articles produced with institutional support, further documenting the institution’s contributions to the three fields. The conclusion of the year was marked by a new initiative, the Dumbarton Oaks Humanities Fellowships, which—in collaboration with distinguished local institutions—will encourage new generations of the best Harvard graduates to consider careers and vocations in the humanities.

Executive Committee Meeting

The annual meeting of the Dumbarton Oaks Executive Committee took place on Thursday, April 21, 2016. The meeting was convened by Diana Sorensen, dean of Arts and Humanities Division of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and included committee members Mathilda van Es (administrative dean for Arts and Humanities), Ioli Kalavrezou (Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine Art), Michael Puett (Walter C. Klein Professor of Chinese History), Michael Puett (Dumbarton Oaks Professor of the History of Pre-Columbian and Colonial Art), Jan Ziolkowski (director of Dumbarton Oaks), and Yota Batsaki (executive director of Dumbarton Oaks). The committee reviewed the academic and institutional programs that took place over the previous year, including the 75th anniversary concert and exhibitions.

Institutional Collaborations

In spring 2016, Dumbarton Oaks continued the tradition of collaboration with the National Gallery of Art, organizing two events that complemented the exhibition *Power and Pathos: Bronze Sculpture of the Hellenistic World* (December 13, 2015–March 20, 2016). The fifty works on display surveyed the development of Hellenistic art as it spread from Greece throughout the Mediterranean between the fourth and
first centuries BC. The first event was held at the National Gallery of Art on February 11, 2016. Ioli Kalavrezou, Dimitris Kastritsis (2013–2014 Byzantine Studies fellow and lecturer at the University of St. Andrews), and Jonathan Shea (Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in Byzantine History) presented perspectives on “The Afterlives of Alexander in the Byzantine World.” The second collaboration was an illustrated talk, “From Olympus to the Streets of Constantinople: The Byzantine Retirement of the Ancient Gods,” delivered by Anthony Kaldellis (professor of classics at Ohio State University) on March 3, 2016.

On April 8 and April 9, 2016, Dumbarton Oaks hosted the conference entitled “Private Collecting and Public Display: Art Museums in the Nation’s Capital in the Early Twentieth Century” (jointly organized with the Lamar Dodd School of Art at the University of Georgia). Cofunded by the Wilson Center for the Humanities and Arts, University of Georgia, and Dumbarton Oaks, the conference explored the aesthetic, philosophical, and ideological sources that shaped art collecting in early twentieth-century America, focusing on collections in Washington, DC.

The Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies and the Garden and Landscape Studies program collaborated with the Environmental Film Festival in the nation’s capital to screen the film *Containment*. Part wake-up call, part observational documentary, part graphic sci-fi novel, *Containment* tracks imaginative attempts to plan for a radioactive future. The screening in the Oak Room at 1700 Wisconsin Avenue on March 23, 2016, was followed by a question-and-answer session with director Peter Galison, professor in history of science and physics at Harvard University.

**Director’s Learned Societies Meetings**

On February 25–27, 2016, Ziolkowski attended the Medieval Academy of America annual meeting in Cambridge.

Ziolkowski also attended the 51st International Congress on Medieval Studies, held in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on May 11–15. On the evening of Thursday, May 12, he hosted a reception to introduce attendees to the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library.
Dumbarton Oaks was pleased to receive a record 250 fellowship and project grant applications across the three areas of study in 2015–2016. Dumbarton Oaks awarded fifty fellowships: twenty-three in Byzantine Studies; sixteen in Garden and Landscape Studies, including the inaugural Mellon Fellows in Urban Landscape Studies; and eleven in Pre-Columbian Studies. An Early-Career Musician, two visiting scholars in Byzantine Studies, one visiting scholar in Garden and Landscape Studies, one director’s visiting scholar, three Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library residencies, and a Mellon Practitioner Residency in Urban Landscape Studies contributed to the academic community by being in residence for a portion of the academic year. Over the summer months, six departments welcomed a total of twelve interns from Harvard University. Dumbarton Oaks also awarded eight project grants, fifteen one-month research awards, and twelve short-term predoctoral residencies.

Byzantine Studies

Fellows

Leslie Brubaker, University of Birmingham, “The Virgin Mary in the Byzantine World, 400–1200” (spring term)

Mary Cunningham, University of Nottingham, “The Virgin Mary in the Byzantine World, 400–1200: Images, Texts, Relics, and Ceremony”

Stig Frøyshov, University of Oslo, “The Horologion in Constantinople and Peripheries: Palatine, Secular, and Monastic Contexts”
Dumbarton Oaks fellows at the annual pumpkin-carving party at the director’s residence.

**Jeffrey Hamburger**, Harvard University, “From Cross to Crucifix: Berthold of Nuremberg’s Dominican Rereading of Hrabanus Maurus’ *In Honor of the Holy Cross*

**Yuri Marano**, Collège de France, Monde Byzantin, “The Privileged Burials of Early Byzantine Greece (Early Fourth to Early Seventh Century CE)”

**Fabio Pagani**, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, “Studying Plato at Mystra: New Perspectives on Gemistos Pletho and His School”
Nikolaos Zagklas, University of Silesia, “Theodore Prodromos: Writing Poetry and Schedography in Twelfth-Century Constantinople”

Junior Fellows

Ludovic Bender, University of Fribourg, “Hermitages and Rock-Monasteries of Laconia (Eleventh–Fifteenth Century): The Landscape of Monasticism in a Byzantine Region”

Siren Celik, University of Birmingham, “A Historical Biography of Manuel II Palaiologos (1350–1425)”

Bradley Hostetler, Florida State University, “The Function of Text: Byzantine Reliquaries with Metrical Inscriptions, 843–1204”
Roman Shliakhtin, Central European University, “The Image of the Seljuk Turks among the Byzantine Literati of the Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries”

Summer Fellows


Darlene Brooks Hedstrom, Wittenberg University, “Feeding Asceticism: The Archaeology of Byzantine Monastic Kitchens”

Branislav Cvetković, Regional Museum of Jagodina, Balkan Studies Institute, “Between Power and Demise: Reliquary of Barbara Frankopan Branković”

Reyhan Durmaz, Brown University, “Texts, Authors, and Holy Men between Christian and Islamic Hagiographical Traditions”

Roberta Franchi, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, “Reading the Life of Olympias: A Case for Female Deaconesses at Constantinople”

Przemyslaw Marciniak, University of Silesia, “Hermippos, Hermodotos, and Musokles: A Study of the Three Byzantine Dialogues”

Mark Masterson, Victoria University of Wellington, “Same-Sex Desire among Elite Men during the Time of the Macedonians”

Brian Matz, Carroll College, “Patristic Citations in the Filioque Controversy of the Middle Byzantine Period”

Phillip Mazero, Saint Louis University, “Frontier Politics: Veneto-Byzantine Relations, Civic Identity, and Imperial Hegemony, 697–1126”

William R. Tyler Fellows

Nathaniel Aschenbrenner, Harvard University, “Rome Contested: Byzantine, Humanist, and Holy Roman Discourses of Empire in the Fifteenth Century”

Coleman Connelly, Harvard University, “Appropriating the Greek Past in the Graeco-Arabic Translation Movement”

Project Grants

Smaragdi Arvaniti, University of Athens, “Recording Material Culture at the Shën Mëri Church, Labovo: An Unexplored Religious Center of Byzantine Alban”

James Crow, University of Edinburgh, “Apalirou Environ Project”

Ine Jacobs, University of Edinburgh, “Kostoperska Karpa Regional Archaeological Project”

Noah Kaye, University of Oregon, “Between Constantinople and Thessalonica: The Justinianic Settlement at Molyvoti, Thrace”

Athanasios Vionis, University of Cyprus, “Settled and Sacred Landscapes: Byzantine Rural Archaeology in Kofinou, Cyprus”

Visiting Scholars

Claudia Rapp, University of Vienna (fall term)

Jonathan Shepard, University of Cambridge (spring term)
One-Month Research Awards

Kristoffel Demoen, Ghent University, “The Paradiesos Ascribed to John Geometres: Sources and Metaphrastic Technique”

David Dunsenbury, Catholic University of Leuven, “Nemesius of Emesa and the Genesis of Christian Anthropology”

Dimitri Korobeinikov, University at Albany, State University of New York, “From Byzantium to the Ottoman Empire: Paphlagonia and Western Pontos, 1061–1461”

Dimitra Kotoula, Greek Ministry of Culture, “Art, Politics, and Eschatology in the Burial Chapel of Lay Monastic Founders in Byzantium, 11th–14th Centuries”

Anne McClanan, Portland State University, “Humor in the Great Palace Mosaics: New Avenues of Interpretation”

Arseniy Petrov, Russian State University for the Humanities, “‘The Saviour in Majesty’ in Russian Art of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries: Origin and Meaning”

Andrea Rhoby, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Institute for Medieval Research, “The Chronicle of Constantine Manasses, German Translation”

Rustam Shukurov, Moscow State University, “Greeks in Muslim Anatolia, ca. 1100–ca. 1400”

Luigi Silvano, University of Turin, “Interpreting Odysseus’ Travels in Fourteenth Century Byzantium: Manuel Gabalas”

Foteini Spingou, Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, “Medieval Texts on Byzantine Art and Aesthetics (1081–ca. 1330s)”

Short-Term Predoctoral Residencies

Sarah Simmons, Florida State University

Baukje van den Berg, Leiden University

Shukurov Rustam, Moscow State University

Alice Lynn McMichael, Graduate Center, City University of New York

Ciolfi Lorenzo, Università di Roma

Lauren Wainwright, University of Birmingham

Werner de Saeger, University of Oxford
Garden and Landscape Studies

Fellows

Tom Conley, Harvard University, “Mapping River and City in France, 1600–1640”

Philip Jacks, George Washington University, “‘To Make it a Great Entrepot’: The Story of Baltimore’s Locust Point” (spring term)

Linda Jewell, University of California, Berkeley, “Gathering on the Ground: Experiencing Landscape in American Outdoor Theaters” (fall term)

Tamara Sears, Yale University, “Wilderness Urbanisms: Architecture, Landscape, and Travel in Precolonial India”

Junior Fellows

Camille Behnke Shamble, University of Virginia, “Growing Children Out of Doors: California’s Open-Air Schools and Children’s Health, 1907–1917”


Summer Fellows

Timothy Baird, Pennsylvania State University, “Landscape Materiality: Innovation and Convention from Modernism to the Present”

Francois Dupuigrenet Desroussilles, Florida State University, “‘If Eve Had a Spade in Paradise. . .’: Elizabeth von Arnim and Her Gardens (1898–1914)”

Josepha Richard, University of Sheffield, “The Gardens of Lingnan: Valorizing the Third Garden Culture in China”


Mellon Fellows in Urban Landscape Studies

Christina Milos, University of Hannover, “Anticipatory Urbanization Strategies for In-Situ Oil Sands Extraction in Nigeria” (fall term)
Alpa Nawre, Kansas State University, “Adaptive Land-Water Edges in Indian Cities” (spring term)

Kara Schlichting, Queens College, City University of New York, “The Nature of Urban Coastal Resiliency: Twentieth-Century Governance, Environmental Management, and Design” (spring term)

David Wooden, District Department of the Environment, “Washington’s Sewer History: Ideological, Technological, and Environmental Evolution” (fall term)

Mellon Practitioner Residency in Urban Landscape Studies
Gary Hilderbrand, Reed Hilderbrand LLC

William R. Tyler Fellows
John Davis, Harvard University, “The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the American Landscape, 1865–1904”
Deirdre Moore, Harvard University, “Indigenous Knowledge and Breeding of Cochineal Insects in Eighteenth-Century Colonial Mexico”

Project Grants
Alison Carter, University of Sydney and University of Wisconsin–Madison, “Beyond Rice Agriculture: The Garden Agriculture of Angkor Wat”
Kimberly Mercurio, Harvard University, “The A. E. Bye Land Surveys”

Visiting Scholar
Alison Hardie, Leeds University, “The Dumbarton Oaks Anthology of Chinese Garden Literature”

One-Month Research Awards
Michelle Sauer, University of North Dakota, “Gardens, the Rhetoric of Desire, and Lesbian Space in Late Medieval Dream Visions”
Margaret Goehring, New Mexico State University, “Thoughts about Late Medieval Ornament and the Opening Miniature for Guillaume de Machaut’s ‘Dit dou Lyon’”

Short-Term Predoctoral Residencies
Brett Culbert, Harvard University
Kate Wersan, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Pre-Columbian Studies

Fellows
Christopher Beekman, University of Colorado, Denver, “Out of Many, One: Collective Governance and Its Visual Ramifications in Pre-Columbian Jalisco, Mexico”
William Fash, Harvard University
Pre-Columbian fellows and staff for the 2015–2016 academic year.

**Takeshi Inomata**, University of Arizona, “Ritual and Politics at the Preclassic Maya Center of Ceibal, Guatemala”

**Daniela Triadan**, University of Arizona, “The Development of Social Inequality at the Preclassic Maya Center of Ceibal, Guatemala”

**Junior Fellows**

**Erika Brant**, University of Virginia, “The Dead Rose from the Ground: Ancestors and Political Authority in a Post-Collapse Andean Society (1000–1450 CE)”

**Rebecca Mendelsohn**, University at Albany, State University of New York, “The Early Mesoamerican City of Izapa and the Southern Maya Region”

**Jennifer Saracino**, Tulane University, “Shifting Landscape: Depictions of Environmental and Cultural Disruption in the Mapa Uppsala”

**Summer Fellows**

**Kirby Farah**, University of California, Riverside, “Palace and Home: Creating and Maintaining an Elite Identity at Postclassic Xaltocan”

Matthew Looper, California State University, Chico, “Deer Imagery in Ancient Maya Art”

David Reed, University of Michigan, “Maya in the Middle”

Project Grants

Steve Kosiba, University of Alabama, “The Roots of the Inca State: Ritual Practice and Sacred Space at Huanacauri (Cuzco, Peru)”

One-Month Research Awards

Maria Florencia Becerra, Instituto de Arqueologia, Universidad de Buenos Aires, “Mining and Metal Working during Inca Times: A Comparative Analysis”

Christina Torres-Rouff, University of California, Merced, “Travelers and Trade: Mobility in the Formative Period Atacama Desert (500 BC–AD 500)”

Short-Term Predoctoral Residencies

Daniela La Chioma Silvestre Villalva, University of São Paulo, Brazil

Fernando Danta Marques Pesce, Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Brazil

Elena Iourtaeva, Harvard University

Institutional Fellowships and Academic Appointments

Early-Career Musician Residency

Matthew Aucoin, Harvard University

Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library Residencies

Johanna Kramer, University of Missouri

Hugh Magennis, Queen’s University Belfast

Robin Norris, Carleton University
Director’s Visiting Scholar
The director invited Professor Michel Zink to Dumbarton Oaks in 2015–2016. Professor Zink teaches French and Occitan medieval literature at the Collège de France. Since 2011, he has been secretary of the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres at the Institut de France. He has authored more than twenty-five books on medieval literature, principally religious literature, troubadour’s poetry, and literary theory.

Wintersession Course
In January 2016, Dumbarton Oaks continued its Wintersession course. Instituted in 2015, the week-long session brought thirteen Harvard undergraduates to Washington, DC, to study the interaction of cultural diplomacy, philanthropy, and soft power. Led by director Jan Ziolkowski, the course, “Culture and Power: Art, Philanthropy, and Diplomacy in America,” was intended for students with interests in twentieth-century cultural and art history as well as those with career goals in cultural, academic, and nonprofit institutions. In addition to seminars and visits to local museums, the course featured talks by distinguished administrators, curators, and directors of cultural nonprofits. Speakers included Stanley Katz, professor in public and international affairs, Princeton University Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies; Dodge Thompson, chief of exhibitions, National Gallery of Art; John Wetenhall, director, George Washington University Museum and Textile Museum; and Asen Kirin, associate professor of art, University of Georgia.

Wintersession Students
Brittany Ellis ’19  Jessica Nebrat ’18
Mireya Hernandez ’17  Nancy O’Neil ’17
Gal Koplewitz ’17  William Oh ’18
Elizabeth Keto ’18  Audrey Shi ’17
Luke Kelly ’19  Alexandra Walsh ’18
Charlie Krumholz ’19  Sarah Wu ’19
Yousra Neberai ’18
Undergraduate Class Visit
Ioli Kalavrezou, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine Art, and students Veronika Poier, Kelsey Keldridge, Juliette Calvarin, and Sara Price were hosted by Gudrun Bühl on November 12–14, 2015. The visiting class discussed and studied objects in the Byzantine galleries, viewed the Byzantine manuscript collection, and visited object storage to handle and examine several objects from the collections.

Postbaccalaureate Fellowships
In 2014–2015, Dumbarton Oaks developed a new program of postbaccalaureate fellowships for recent Harvard graduates interested in exploring careers in the humanities. These one-year appointments, which can be renewed for a second year, encourage recipients to apply their research skills and introduce them into the professional worlds of curators, librarians, archivists, and nonprofit administrators.
Spencer Lenfield graduated from Harvard College in 2012 with an AB in history and literature. He then attended Oxford from 2012 to 2015 on a Rhodes Scholarship. Since coming to Dumbarton Oaks as media fellow in September 2015, Lenfield has worked on a range of video and writing projects. In addition to being responsible for public media, Lenfield is currently working on digitizing and editing eighteenth- and nineteenth-century autograph letters in the Rare Book Collection.

Rebecca Frankel graduated from Harvard College in 2015 with an AB in classics. As postbaccalaureate fellow in Medieval Latin, she assists in the preparation of various medieval-themed volumes for publication.

Jessica Salley is a 2014 graduate of Harvard College, where she completed a joint concentration in history and Near Eastern languages and civilizations. At Dumbarton Oaks, she serves as the postgraduate fellow in communications and outreach, within the Director’s Office. Her key projects have been those that help Dumbarton Oaks strengthen ties to the communities of which it is a part—Harvard, Washington, DC, and the broader scholarly and public audiences.

Postdoctoral Fellowships
The postdoctoral fellowships are three-year appointments designed to engage early-career scholars in research and publication at Dumbarton Oaks.

Jeanne Haffner (PhD, University of Virginia, 2008) is Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Urban Landscape Studies. Before lecturing in the department of the history of science at Harvard University, Haffner was a visiting fellow at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, the ETH in Zürich, the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, and the Center for Metropolitan Studies at the Technical University in Berlin. At Dumbarton Oaks, she coordinates the scholarly, publication, and outreach activities of the Urban Landscape Studies Initiative, funded by a five-year Mellon Foundation grant.
Bryan Cockrell (PhD, University of California, Berkeley, 2014) is researching and supporting the development of a catalog of jade, metal, and shell museum objects from Central America and Colombia. The catalogue not only will profile over 200 objects from the Dumbarton Oaks Collection but also will present the latest archaeological research in the region and explore connecting threads such as human origins, technological transmission, and the representation of fauna in various media.

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowships

Konstantina Karterouli (PhD, Harvard University, 2015) is postdoctoral fellow in Byzantine art history. Working in Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives, Karterouli researches collection materials in order to better situate the collections in their intellectual and scholarly contexts and to advise on digitization priorities.

Jonathan Shea (PhD, University of Birmingham, 2010), postdoctoral teaching fellow in Byzantine history, oversees the publication of the Online Catalogue of Byzantine Seals. He also teaches at George Washington University; his courses include a survey on the crusades and a course on “The Heroic Age of Byzantium” in the tenth century.

Elizabeth Williams (PhD, New York University, 2015), postdoctoral teaching fellow in Byzantine art history, coordinates the online catalogue of late antique and Egyptian textiles at Dumbarton Oaks. She also teaches at George Washington University. Her teaching fellowship allows her to bridge the university and museum environments, a unique opportunity that fosters close object study as well as interaction with scholarly, student, and public audiences.

Postgraduate Fellowship in Digital Humanities

Lain Wilson (Princeton University), manages a number of digital humanities projects, including the Online Catalogue of Byzantine Seals. He is pursuing his PhD in Byzantine history, numismatics, and sigillography.
2015 Summer Internships for Harvard Students

Director’s Office
Gladys Kisela ’17, Outreach Media
Elizabeth Keto ’18, Public Programming and Outreach
Samuel Shapiro ’18, Ephemera Acquisitions
Katherine Borrazzo ’18, 75th Anniversary Social Media

Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library
Eric Nemarich, rising Classics G2
Yun Ni, rising Comparative Literature G4
Hope Patterson ’18

Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives
Hannah Firestone ’16, Oral History

Museum
Alexandra Walsh ’18, Byzantine Collections Catalogue
Margaret Vo ’17, Oral History

Pre-Columbian Studies
Hannah Yang, MLA ’16, Orientation Gallery Exhibit

Publications
Nathan Cummings ’18, Annual Report
Byzantine Studies

Fellows

Leslie Brubaker, University of Birmingham, “The Virgin Mary in the Byzantine World, 400–1200” (spring term)

During my four months at Dumbarton Oaks, I completed two articles, delivered three public lectures (Brown University, Catholic University, and the University of Virginia), revised and expanded two chapters of a book on the cult of the Virgin in Byzantium (coauthored with Mary Cunningham), and completed much of the research for the remaining two chapters. Both Mary and I benefited enormously from the opportunity to work closely together for a sustained period. Among our key findings about the material culture associated with the Virgin Mary: first, there is far more early (pre-600) material on the Virgin Mary than has been recognized, but the recent hypothesis that a painting of a woman at the well in the baptistery from Dura Europos (ca. 250) represents the earliest image of Mary is demonstrably incorrect; second, there is great variety in the form of this material, but specific media (e.g., liturgical silver and textiles) demonstrate discrete approaches to picturing the Virgin; and third, the material produced in the regions around Rome and Constantinople was, from the earliest period, distinctly differentiated.

Mary Cunningham, University of Nottingham, “The Virgin Mary in the Byzantine World, 400–1200: Images, Texts, Relics, and Ceremony”

My fellowship was primarily spent working on a forthcoming book (coauthored with Leslie Brubaker) entitled *The Virgin Mary in the*
Byzantine World, ca. AD 400–1204: Images, Texts, Relics, and Ceremony. My part of the project included work on the Marian relics in Constantinople (a robe and a belt), festal and occasional sermons, hagiography, and various polemical texts that concern the Virgin Mary. Although the book is not finished, we were able to make significant progress on our respective parts. In addition to revising four existing chapters, I was able to carry out new research on middle Byzantine hymnography and poetry. The completed project will be submitted to Cambridge University Press. Other projects completed in the course of the fellowship included correcting the proofs of “The Interpretation of the New Testament in Byzantine Preaching: Mediating an Encounter with the Word,” an article that will appear in The New Testament in Byzantium, edited by D. Krueger and R. S. Nelson. Thomas Arentzen and I submitted a proposal for an edited volume—based on the proceedings of a workshop on the Virgin Mary at the International Conference on Patristic Studies, Oxford, in August—to Cambridge University Press.

Stig Frøyshov, University of Oslo, “The Horologion in Constantinople and Peripheries: Palatine, Secular, and Monastic Contexts”

My project concerned the adoption and evolution in Constantinople and its peripheries of the Jerusalem Book of Hours (Horologion) until the time of the Fourth Crusade, with particular emphasis on the ecclesiastical contexts for its use (monastic, palatine, and patriarchal). The project had two distinct parts: until the tenth century, no Greek Horologion manuscripts for Constantinople seem to have been preserved, but in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, we encounter Horologion manuscripts clearly relating to Constantinople. My project evolved into a broad study of the Hagiopolites office in Constantinople until about the eleventh century. From the outset, my hypothesis was that the Hagiopolites Divine Office in Constantinople had been practiced not only by monasteries, but also by palatine and secular, or even patriarchal, churches. Study of nonmonastic hymnographers makes it safe to deduce that the Hagiopolites rite was used at the Great Palace, at least in some of its churches, from the eighth century onwards. The question of the use of Hagiopolites in patriarchal churches is more complicated. I found that a considerable number of hymnographers
belonged to the patriarchal clergy of Hagia Sophia, including many patriarchs. Could Hagiopolites have been an official, second rite of the patriarchate, besides the primary Ecclesiastes rite of Hagia Sophia? The inclusion of stichera and kanons (Hagiopolites hymn genres) in Ecclesiastes services found in eleventh-century sources precludes the simple conclusion that Hagiopolites hymnography by necessity implies the full Hagipolites rite.

Jeffrey Hamburger, Harvard University, “From Cross to Crucifix: Berthold of Nuremberg’s Dominican Rereading of Hrabanus Maurus’ In Honor of the Holy Cross”

Most of my fellowship was devoted to a book on medieval diagrams, specifically those of the Dominican Berthold of Nuremberg, who, in the late thirteenth century, rewrote and expanded In honorem sanctae crucis, by the Carolingian polymath Hrabanus Maurus. Using this case study to trace the transformation of attitudes toward images from the early to the late Middle Ages, I drafted my book, tentatively entitled From Cross to Crucifix: Berthold of Nuremberg’s Reconfiguration of Hrabanus Maurus’ Treatise on the Cross, to be published by the University of Chicago Press. The book will use the reception of Hrabanus to examine the shift from sign to body and transcendental sign to historical narrative in medieval art. My fellowship year enabled me to read broadly, not only on the integration of narrative and diagrammatic modes of representation in the medieval West but also on the discourse on diagrams in fields as varied as contemporary philosophy, artificial intelligence, Bildwissenschaft, and the history of science. This reading will enable me to situate my study in current humanistic scholarship on the diagram.

Yuri Marano, Collège de France, Monde Byzantin, “The Privileged Burials of Early Byzantine Greece (Early Fourth to Early Seventh Century CE)”

During my fellowship, I explored the emergence of Christian society in early Byzantine Greece, focusing on ad sanctos burials, the tombs of individuals buried near the body or relics of a saint or martyr. After collecting evidence for the most recent discoveries, I framed the phenomenon within the Christianization of the diocese of Macedonia. Through the analysis of funerary inscriptions, I considered the composition of the local ruling class and its involvement in
church building. The appearance of *ad sanctos* burials highlights the growing prestige of the Church and its ability to mobilize resources. Well attested in rural basilicas, *ad sanctos* burials challenge the idea of Christianization and church building as a principally urban phenomenon. The burials hint at a Christian aristocracy, living both in towns and in the countryside, that represented its status through association with relics. My project offers very promising streams of inquiry. Because it is located midway between East and West, Greece is a perfect case study for the dynamics of Christianization, and it is my intention to integrate the Greek data with other Mediterranean evidence in a comparative perspective.

Fabio Pagani, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, “Studying Plato at Mystra: New Perspectives on Gemistos Pletho and His School”

My research investigates Byzantine intellectual history at the end of Paleologan period. Against the widespread assumption that the Byzantine Middle Ages were unable to produce original philosophical speculation, I focused my attention on Gemistos Pletho and his school operating at Mystra in southern Greece. Pletho and his school have been the object of conflicting ideological interpretations, particularly when it comes to the relationship between philosophy and Christianity. Against this background, I have brought to the discussion a methodology based on the combination of philology, paleography, and textual criticism. Gemistos reappropriated the legacy of ancient Platonism by producing a text of Plato consistent with his own philosophical ideas. The result of this work is a better understanding not only of Gemistos Pletho, but also of how the reappropriation of antiquity interacted with the creation and spread of new ideas.

Nikolaos Zagklas, University of Silesia, “Theodore Prodromos: Writing Poetry and Schedography in Twelfth-Century Constantinople”

I spent my fellowship term expanding my doctoral thesis, “Writing Poetry and Schedography in Twelfth-Century Constantinople,” into a book manuscript. The prospectus has been accepted by Oxford University Press. This book will be the first critical study of a corpus of ninety-five neglected poems of various genres by Theodore
Prodromos, the most skilled and celebrated poet in twelfth-century Constantinople. It explores the circulation of these poems within the historical and sociocultural context of the Komnenian period and beyond. It demonstrates that many of these poems, when viewed in the context of Prodromos’s innovative schedographic project, served many functions. It will, thus, illustrate for the first time that Prodromos’s roles as court poet and teacher were inextricably linked and of significant importance for understanding his poetic craft.

I also completed an article on the relationship between prose and verse in twelfth-century Byzantine literary culture. This is the first detailed study to explore works written in mixed form (the so-called *prosimetrum*), twinned works (in prose and verse), and triplets of works (in prose, verse, and schedography), as well as the phenomenon of polymetry. Moreover, I translated and discussed a group of poems by Theodore Prodromos, Niketas Eugenianos, and Gregory of Corinth for the forthcoming *Medieval Texts on Art and Aesthetics* (edited by Charles Barber and F. Spingou); completed an article that includes the *editio princeps* of six anonymous poems preserved in a fourteenth-century manuscript; and began a chapter that examines the various trends of verse satire in the Komnenian and Palaiologan periods for a companion to *Byzantine Satire* (edited by I. Nilsson and P. Marciniak).

**Junior Fellows**

**Ludovic Bender, University of Fribourg, “Hermitages and Rock-Monasteries of Laconia (Eleventh–Fifteenth Century): The Landscape of Monasticism in a Byzantine Region”**

My dissertation focuses on the landscape of Byzantine Laconia (Peloponnese), which was comprised of numerous religious foundations, among which are several rock monasteries and many smaller hermitages built in caves and isolated settings. The project considers the interactions of isolated hermits and established communities, the relationships of large monasteries to smaller foundations, the interweaving of monastic and agricultural economies, and the demarcation of sacred landscapes using a geographic information system (ArcGIS) to support the analysis. I documented these monuments and their natural settings between 2012 and 2015, using three-dimensional models with Structure from Motion photogrammetry (Agisoft Photoscan). I completed my dissertation at Dumbarton Oaks.
I analyzed the monuments, their function, and their reuse. Paintings and inscriptions helped me to understand the identity of donors, painters, and ascetics who dwelled in such places. I studied their relation to one another, to local communities, and to the landscape, especially with regard to the selection of monastic sites and patron saints. My project contributes to the full knowledge of cave chapels, hermitages, and rock monasteries of Laconia, thus improving our knowledge of Byzantine monastic networks in rural landscapes. The new technologies used to support my work will be made available to a wider audience interested in this region.

Siren Çelik, University of Birmingham, “A Historical Biography of Manuel II Palaiologos (1350–1425)"

During my year at Dumbarton Oaks, I completed and submitted my doctoral dissertation to the University of Birmingham. My dissertation is a new biography of the emperor and author Manuel II Palaiologos (1350–1425). It offers a complete analysis of Manuel’s oeuvre for the first time and attempts to construct an in-depth portrait of Manuel as a ruler, writer, and personality. Manuel was a prolific writer who produced a corpus of thirty-three works consisting of letters, rhetorical exercises, orations, dialogues, poems, prayers, sermons, and ethico-political and theological treatises. Most of these works have not been studied, and some remain unedited. I analyzed Manuel’s philosophical and theological thought and discussed his literary style and innovations, his classical allusions, and his wit. Where fitting, I made comparisons between Manuel and ancient and Byzantine authors. I also showed Manuel as a private individual, discussing his relationships with intellectuals and his family. I considered his enemies, his piety, and his favorite pastimes, as well as other aspects of his everyday life, military campaigns, and travel. I also analyzed the socioeconomic and political history of Manuel’s reign, incorporating Ottoman sources with Greek and Western ones.

Bradley Hostetler, Florida State University, “The Function of Text: Byzantine Reliquaries with Metrical Inscriptions, 843–1204”

I finished and defended my dissertation, which charts a paradigm for understanding the forms and functions of Middle Byzantine reliquaries, focusing on those inscribed with metrical inscriptions,
or epigrams. These texts provide valuable evidence for how the Byzantines viewed, interpreted, and handled reliquaries, and how they accessed relics. As my research questions evolved, I developed two additional dissertation chapters on relic accessibility and on ekphrastic epigrams. My dissertation also contains a catalogue of all epigrams associated with Middle Byzantine reliquaries. I completed the translations and received valuable feedback from my colleagues, specifically Nikolaos Zagklas, whose work on twelfth-century poetry greatly informed my research.

I began drafting three new chapters for a book based on my dissertation. One presents the various material and medieval textual sources on Middle Byzantine reliquaries; a second examines how relics were labeled in Byzantium; and a third contextualizes the use of relics and reliquaries in battle. I also finished an article on the tenth-century Limburg Staurotheke. I completed two essays, “Image, Epigram, and Nature in Middle Byzantine Personal Devotion,” in *Natural Materials of the Holy Land and the Visual Translation of Place, 500–1500* (edited by R. Bartal, N. Bodner, and B. Kühnel), and “Reliquary Epigrams,” in *Byzantine Texts on Art and Aesthetics, vol. 3: From Alexios I to the Rise of Hesychasm (1081–ca. 1330)* (edited by C. Barber and F. Spingou).

Roman Shliakhtin, Central European University, “The Image of the Seljuk Turks among the Byzantine Literati of the Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries”

While at Dumbarton Oaks, I finished my dissertation on the identity of the Turks that the Byzantine literati constructed in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. Byzantine literati of the eleventh century used a set of labels that became the basis for the identity projected upon the Seljuk Turks. After the shocks of the eleventh century and the turbulent reign of Alexios I Komnenos, the Byzantine court literati reinvented the Turks of Asia Minor as “the Persians,” inscribing them in the imagined universe of the Komnenoi. After the disastrous battle at Myriokephalon, they recognized the territorial and political domination of the Turks in Asia Minor. All through the period in question, they described the frontier zone that separated the Roman Empire and the polities of the Turks. This crossable boundary zone was always present in the literary imagination, leaving little ground for the discussion of the “symbiotic” relations
between Constantinople and Ikonion. My dissertation demonstrates that the identity projected by the Byzantines on the Turks had some analogs in the self-identification of the Great Seljuks and the Turks of Asia Minor. A product of the highly educated Constantinopolitan literati and intended for a Byzantine audience, this ascribed Turkish identity proved persistent and influential for the construction of other medieval Mediterranean identities. It affected the emerging identity of the “Turks” expressed by Crusader sources, the Late Byzantine image of the Turks, and last, but not least, the presentation of the Turks of Anatolia.

Summer Fellows

During my fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks, I worked on the Apocryphon known as Acts of Pilate or Gospel of Nicodemus in its Byzantine context. I gathered material on Joseph of Arimathea, a figure from the canonical Gospels who appears in the Acts of Pilate as the first witness of the Resurrection and who gives testimony to his encounter with the resurrected Christ. I studied the peculiar elements of this narrative, especially the chronology of the events and the Jewish-Christian background of Joseph’s experience. I traced rewritings or allusions to it in Greek, Georgian, Syriac, Ethiopian, and Arabic literature—the two last ones being particularly of interest because there is no known version of the Apocryphon in those languages—as well as in Eastern and Western iconography. Traditions do not know political borders, and examining the diffusion of this narrative improves our understanding of how noncanonical elements spread in the Christian world—in Byzantium and its surroundings. I also worked on the earliest witness of the Acts of Pilate, which is a Latin palimpsest of the fifth century (Vienna, ÖNB 563). Its phrasing is particularly close to Greek. Studying its linguistic peculiarities, I compared the text with the extant Greek versions and prepared a reconstruction hypothesis of the source text used by the translator. I also examined the extant chapters of the Gospel of Matthew transmitted by the same manuscript, which are a so far unstudied witness of the Vetus Latina.
Darlene Brooks Hedstrom, Wittenberg University, “Feeding Asceticism: The Archaeology of Byzantine Monastic Kitchens”

My work documented and analyzed the archaeological remains of built cooking spaces in early Byzantine monasteries in the Eastern Mediterranean. Drawing upon theoretical models from household archaeology and materiality, I examined the designs and constructions of monastic kitchens to reconstruct how the spaces convey the history of monastic life defined by the centrality of meal production in communal and private kitchens. Previous studies of Byzantine feasting and fasting have greatly enhanced the story of monastic eating habits, while the use of microarchaeology at many excavation projects highlights the story that can be told from the evidence of seeds, pollen, and ceramic cooking wares. I assembled a large corpus of monastic sites from Egypt, Gaza, Judea, and Syria with kitchen installations. The sites differ significantly in their construction materials, but each helps explain how ingredients were combined to make meals. Egyptian monastic sites offer an impressive range of ovens, fire-pits, and braziers. The Egyptian material complements stone oil and wine presses, mills, and refectories found at Judean and Gazan monasteries. Together the sites complement the information from Byzantine legal treatises, cookbooks, literary texts, and visual representations of cooking. I benefitted from using the impressive ICFA archives to study early twentieth-century images of monastic kitchens and food preparation from expeditions to Egypt, Israel, and Syria. This ethnographic evidence and an extensive catalogue of archaeological sites provided substantial material for drafting a book prospectus and a chapter on what constitutes a “kitchen” when looking at archaeological evidence in Byzantine monasteries.

Branislav Cvetković, Regional Museum of Jagodina, Balkan Studies Institute, “Between Power and Demise: Reliquary of Barbara Frankopan Branković”

During my fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks, I continued my research on the reliquary of the Despotissa Barbara Frankopan Branković, now kept in the Franciscan monastery at Tersatto, Croatia. The complex structure and chronology of its parts required research in several areas, and I have now resolved with certainty questions of the technical and stylistic diversity of what were originally more than forty relic
frames, now joined in one whole. Comparable material in scattered museum and monastery collections shows that the present content of the object represents a much later combination of smaller and older reliquaries and other items. Paleographic and metalwork evidence indicates that several relic frames were produced in the court workshop of the earlier generations of the Branković dynasty. Analysis of the formal features of the well-preserved frames provides fresh data on issues of relic display, especially in comparison with the reliquary of Saint Marina in the Museo Correr in Venice. I have found new information about the provenance and dissemination of the inscription (a prayer to the Holy Trinity) on the rim of the panagiarion. The most important part of my research was related to establishing the identity of relics belonging to the neomartyrs. My research provides a context for part of the reliquary against the political and religious background of the Balkans in the later Middle Ages.

Reyhan Durmaz, Brown University, “Texts, Authors, and Holy Men between Christian and Islamic Hagiographical Traditions”

I study Christian and Islamic hagiographical traditions in late antiquity and the early Middle Ages for my doctoral research. I am currently working on the transmission of a fifth-century Syriac hagiographical text, *The History of the Great Deeds of Bishop Paul of Qentos and Priest John of Edessa*, by Muslim transmitters and historians of the Islamic tradition. After being shortened and given an Islamic resonance through multiple transmissions, the Syriac story was eventually incorporated into the *Sīra* (biography) of Prophet Muhammad written by Ibn Ishâq (d. 768). The story of Paul and John is about the ascetic endeavors of two holy men mostly in Syria but also in Italy, South Arabia, and northern Iraq. In the Islamic tradition, however, the abridged version of the story is used to narrate the conversion of South Arabia to Christianity. My summer fellowship enabled me to expand on the sociopolitical circumstances in late antiquity under which this transmission took place. With the help of primary sources in Greek, Syriac, and Arabic, I was able to trace variations of the story within the Christian tradition and its transmission to the Islamic milieu in the seventh century. In light of the secondary scholarship that explores similar phenomena in other contexts, I explored the role of oral tradition and storytelling in the ancient world, which brought a new dimension into my research.
Roberta Franchi, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, “Reading the Life of Olympias: A Case for Female Deaconesses at Constantinople”

What was the social and economic status of wealthy widows in the Christian community during the fourth and fifth centuries? To what extent can sources help us to reflect on their roles? To answer these questions, I am preparing a new critical edition, with introduction and commentary, of the Greek Life of Olympias. Olympias was a deaconess at Constantinople in the fifth century whose story demonstrates much about widowhood and *diakonia* in late antique society. This edition is based on four extant Greek manuscripts and the *Narratio Sergiae*. Sergia was an abbess who saved the relics of Olympias that rested in the monastery of Saint Thomas in Brochthoi when it was burned by Persian soldiers. She convinced the patriarch of Constantinople to deposit the relics in the monastery of Saint Olympias. Her account of the translation of the relics of Olympias (BHG 1376) is a valuable source of information. These texts—the Life of Olympias and the Narratio Sergiae—will be published in the Italian series *Biblioteca patristica*.

Przemyslaw Marciniak, University of Silesia, “Hermippos, Hermodotos, and Musokles: A Study of the Three Byzantine Dialogues”

My original plan was to spend the summer with three dialogues—Hermippos, Hermodotos, and Musokles—which were once ascribed to John Katrares and, therefore, dated to the Paleologean period. Neither the dating nor the authorship of these dialogues could be conclusively ascertained, however. But I did succeed in reading the texts and preparing a working Polish translation of Hermodotos. And, as always happens, the wonderful library tempted me, and I (un)fortunately succumbed to this temptation, thus finishing other projects. I wrote first drafts of two chapters of my book on Byzantine satire, “Byzantine Satirical Katabaseis” and “What is Byzantine Satire,” focusing mostly on twelfth-century literature but occasionally referring to the later texts, such as fifteenth-century Mazaris’ *Journey to Hades*. I also reworked and submitted for review an article on Against an Old Man with a Long Beard, a satire by Theodore Prodromos; this paper was recently accepted for publication by *Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies*.
Mark Masterson, Victoria University of Wellington, “Same-Sex Desire among Elite Men during the Time of the Macedonians”

While at Dumbarton Oaks, I worked on a book project concerned with same-sex desire between men in the Macedonian period (late 800s to 1000s). The project has moved forward gratifyingly, as I now have a solid three-chapter structure consisting of (1) what the tenth-century portrait (synthesized from various histories) of the ninth-century founder of the dynasty, Basil I, can tell us about the relation between authority and same-sex desire in the tenth century; (2) what the role of same-sex desire was in the epistolary networks around emperors Basil II, John I Tzimiskes, and Nikephoros II Phokas; and (3) what sexual dynamics were perceptible in the portraits of two warrior-emperors, Basil II and Nikephoros II Phokas. Looking forward to my conclusions, I will be asserting that same-sex desire was very much present at this time on the basis of its presence in a variety of genres (historiography, epistolography, hagiography, etc.); this leads to a further conclusion that same-sex desire cannot be left out when elite male culture in the Macedonian period is being considered.

Brian Matz, Carroll College, “Patristic Citations in the Filioque Controversy of the Middle Byzantine Period”

The eventual break in communion between Greek- and Latin-speaking Christians was due in no small measure to the debate over the propriety of the Latins inserting filioque into the Nicene Creed’s statement regarding the Holy Spirit’s procession. Regional use of an interpolated creed by Latins had definitively begun as early as the Council of Toledo VIII (653), though likely even earlier, and evidence suggests it was in common use among the Franks by the mid-eighth century. My work at Dumbarton Oaks focused on the literature of the late eighth through the late ninth centuries. Prior to the fellowship, I had focused on the use of patristic sources in twelve texts composed during the later part of this period (867–890). Due to Photius’ role at that time, I had treated this as a separable group of literature. But during the fellowship, I traced the use of patristic sources in the literature across the entire time period (790–890). This study has revealed a greater dependency of the later Latin sources on the earlier ones than previously recognized. Consequently, I have expanded the list of relevant literature from twelve to thirty-two texts. In the coming year,
I expect to complete a translation of these thirty-two texts and a study of the role of patristic literature within them.

Phillip Mazero, Saint Louis University, “Frontier Politics: Veneto-Byzantine Relations, Civic Identity, and Imperial Hegemony, 697–1126”

At Dumbarton Oaks, I conducted research for my dissertation, which analyzes relations between Venice and the Byzantine Empire from the election of the first doge to the eruption of the first Veneto-Byzantine war. During this foundational period, Venice grew from a sparsely populated collection of island settlements into one of the most prosperous mercantile cities in the Mediterranean. This process depended in large part on maintaining amiable relations with the Byzantine imperial government, which enabled Venetian access to critical eastern markets. They were important enough for the Venetians occasionally to risk war with the Byzantine Empire. Scholarship has tended to overemphasize the centrality of trade in dictating the course of Veneto-Byzantine relations, however. My research seeks to provide a more complete picture by examining the evolution of Venice and its connections to the empire within the broader context of Byzantine frontier trends. Dumbarton Oaks’s assortment of published archaeological studies in the Upper Adriatic and Venetian lagoon was especially beneficial to my efforts to fill in the voids in both the chronicle record and my previous research in Venetian and Croatian state archives. I also examined its extensive collection of seals to track administrative changes along the empire’s periphery. I was able to complete the first chapter of my dissertation and substantial sections of two others.

Garden and Landscape Studies

Fellows

Tom Conley, Harvard University, “Mapping River and City in France, 1600–1640”

At the forefront of the research stands completion of a book-length project that includes chapters on the theory and practice of the garden at the beginning of the Bourbon Monarchy (roughly, 1594–1610). The guiding hypothesis was—and still is—that, rife with contradiction as
it must be, the ideology of the French nation under *une loy, une foi, un roy* owed to the reshaping of economic policy in agronomy and the design of chateaus and their gardens. Given the uncommonly pertinent resources in the Special Collections, under guidance of Linda Lott, research was devoted to praedial writings and garden design in the context of domestic architecture.

I undertook a protracted study of Olivier de Serres’s *Théâtre d’agriculture et mesnage des champs* (1600) that witnessed about thirty re-editions throughout the seventeenth century, was revived in the early years of the Napoleonic regime, and came forward once again during the occupation of France (1940–1944) before witnessing a re-edition in 2001. Its fortune demonstrates how, in the century in which it was first to flourish, Serres’s treatise not only meshed with the “Protestant ethic and spirit of capitalism” but also served the centralizing designs of state reason (*raison d’état*); how, later, it gained populist appeal; then how, under Philippe Pétain, whose correspondence with the Bliss family (ca. 1927–December 1940) is revealing, its revival was engineered to embody the ethic of *travail et patrie*; and how, read again (in the current of Pierre Lieutaghi’s ample introduction), it now serves economy and ecology. Serres has become so central to the project that an anthology of the thousand-page treatise in English translation may be pitched for a collection under the Dumbarton emblem.

Because Serres establishes garden policy, I worked through architectural treatises (Philibert Delorme and Jacques Androuet du Cerceau) in which the *parterre* belongs to a highly motivated application of design theory. Mobilizing Cartesian logic, it figures in a shift by which, given the arrival of material from newly discovered lands, the medicinal garden gives way to a botanical counterpart—what might be imagined as outdoor *Wunderkammern*. For this aspect of the research, I consulted the holdings of *brodeurs* Pierre Vallet and André Mollet. On this point, more is to follow. In sum, what was envisioned to be a chapter may now become a book.

Philip Jacks, George Washington University, “‘To Make it a Great Entrepot’: The Story of Baltimore’s Locust Point” (spring term)
Arriving in January, I was hoping to complete the final two chapters of a manuscript, but as it happens, I met with architect Chris Pfaeffle only in late spring to plan out the final portion of a book on the
adaptive reuse of the 1923 grain elevator and his designs for Silo Point. The four-month fellowship term was extraordinarily productive in allowing me to gain a much deeper understanding of fields outside my discipline: the grain trade, railroad business, and land management within Baltimore during the critical period of 1814–1831. I had spent the better part of a year systematically gathering letters and reports from the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad’s (B&O) company archives at their Mount Clare Museum. Here at Dumbarton Oaks, I’ve been combing period newspapers—the Baltimore American, Washington Intelligencer, Baltimore Sun, and Niles Register. Other sources yielded troves of unpublished material: the B&O Collection of the National Museum of American History, the Robert Garrett Family Papers of the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, the John W. Garrett correspondence in the Maryland Historical Society, and Illinois Central Railroad Company Archives at the Newberry Library in Chicago. These led me to recast several parts of the book’s narrative. Given the scarcity of visual evidence regarding the early wood-crib elevators, I was particularly excited to discover E. F. Baldwin’s drawings for industrial buildings at the Locust Point terminus, as well as a set of working drawings for an unknown elevator by Camden Yards (destroyed) from the 1880s. Equally important are the set of plats by James Carroll for the route of the railroad into Baltimore.

Through dialogue with colleagues at Dumbarton Oaks, I came to read more widely and to reconsider the scope of the book. There are essentially three tracks—the genius loci of Locust Point itself, the stories of immigration and habitation, and technological innovation of the railroad and grain elevator. But I haven’t yet done fine-tuned research into the connections between Baltimore and its economic rivals—Brooklyn, Buffalo, Philadelphia, and Chicago. I may not change the title of the book, but its geographic context has expanded considerably. Similarly, I’ve come to consider a larger readership than just architectural or urban historians. To that end, I’ve reconfigured the longer chapters with subsections into a series of smaller vignettes.

Linda Jewell, University of California, Berkeley, “Gathering on the Ground: Experiencing Landscape in American Outdoor Theaters” (fall term)
I completed the first two chapters of Gathering on the Ground, a book with twenty case studies of outdoor theaters drawn from a previous
exhibition. The first chapter covers the early twentieth century, when wealthy patrons and volunteers built theaters to bring culture and nature simultaneously into the lives of all Americans. The second chapter examines how the New Deal programs of Franklin Roosevelt continued this tradition by building outdoor theaters in the nation’s parks. This commitment to providing citizens with experiences in nature encouraged designers and craftsmen to respond to the particulars of the landscape in each theater’s design.

I also completed background research for a new case study—Beatrix Farrand’s Lovers Lane Theater at Dumbarton Oaks. With field measurements, drawings, and photographs from Dumbarton’s archives, I verified the dimensional data necessary for illustrative drawings and reconstructed Farrand’s sequence of incremental design decisions between 1924 and 1927, including her on-site consultations with playwright Joseph Lindon Smith, a leader in the outdoor drama movement. This work uncovered how the symmetry of the original proposal was subtly adjusted to the topography and a large walnut tree to give the particulars of this landscape a role in its final design.

Tamara Sears, Yale University, “Wilderness Urbanisms: Architecture, Landscape, and Travel in Precolonial India”

My fellowship year was dedicated to expanding the theoretical and methodological framework for my second book, which focuses on the relationships among architecture, landscape, mobility, and travel in Southern Asia. The project initially began as a study of the relationship between rivers and temple urbanism in central India at the turn of the first millennium, but it has since grown to span a vast chronology, extending from ca. 650 to the present day. At its heart is a range of important yet overlooked sites that originally emerged as outposts along north-south routes. In addition to facilitating trade, pilgrimage, and military campaigns, these places played a vital role in linking inland cities to the seaports that connected India to a wider world. On a theoretical level, I have worked to find new ways to bridge the gap between precolonial histories and presentist modes of inquiry by turning attention to the central role that landscapes have played not only in the distribution and forms of monuments but also in the politics, perception, and (re)production of place over the longue durée.
Through conversations this year, I have become more immersed in the pragmatics of landscape and in thinking through lenses of design and environmental management in order to broaden my approach. Given that landscape is rarely foregrounded in discussions of pre-Mughal Indian architecture, I was also very grateful for the perspectives of scholars in other fields, whose comments have sharpened my discussion in many enduring and valuable ways.

**Junior Fellows**

*Camille Behnke Shamble, University of Virginia, “Growing Children Out of Doors: California’s Open-Air Schools and Children’s Health, 1907–1917”*

During the fellowship year I completed critical progress on my dissertation. I revised and expanded my project using library materials on school gardens, playgrounds, and healing gardens; California landscape architecture; and Progressive-era gardens and ethics. Participating in the interdisciplinary Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies also enhanced my research by encouraging relationships between landscape design practices and history. My dissertation, the first detailed study of American open-air schools, examines the relationship between landscape architecture and building design, considering how these innovative educational facilities simultaneously reflected and shaped Progressive-era reforms related to children’s health and welfare as well as more problematic American discourses surrounding nationalism and racism. This project focuses on the peak of the movement in California, from 1907–1917, in which single-story modern school structures with integrated gardens and permeable pavilion classrooms transformed the state’s educational landscape. As such, this project contributes to an understudied area of landscape history, while also considering the movement’s complex position at the intersection of environmental design, education, medicine, and technology. It is significant to a wide audience because it examines how the landscapes of childhood were shaped, both in their design and everyday experience, by gendered, racial, and class dynamics. Finally, it also has contemporary significance, as it demonstrates the importance of space and landscape to the educational experience and campaigns for greener and healthier school design.

My dissertation project explores the ecological consequences of the British colonization of the Delaware Valley in the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Focusing on a distinctive set of ideas and technologies—urban and regional planning, agricultural improvement, a new art of surveying and mapmaking, natural history, and political economy—the project argues that Britain’s imperial design and technology made a huge impact on the landscape and environment of the Delaware Valley throughout the colonial period. My junior fellowship allowed me to make great progress on research, writing, and finishing chapters of my dissertation. At the library and the Rare Books Collection, I could scrutinize materials pertaining to horticulture, agriculture, and natural history, which were produced in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century England and North America and were used by colonists. In particular, my reading of horticultural treatises in the Rare Books Reading Room led me to conclude that the works of the Hartlib circle heavily influenced Quaker colonists in early Pennsylvania in terms of the introduction of crops and farming methods into the soil of the region. And the original copy of Mark Catesby’s *Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands* amazed me and gave me a lot of new information. Lastly, the academic community of Dumbarton Oaks gave me a lot of pleasure, as I could converse with scholars from multiple disciplines as well as contemporary practitioners.

Summer Fellows  
Timothy Baird, Pennsylvania State University, “Landscape Materiality: Innovation and Convention from Modernism to the Present”

Garrett Eckbo’s 1959 Alcoa Forecast Garden was created through a symbiotic relationship between manufacturer and designer resulting in publicity for the designer and increased sales of a postwar product (aluminum) for the manufacturer. This cyclical borrowing of materials from other fields seems to correspond to periods of greater innovation, while periods of less innovation seem to correspond with more insular times, in which landscape architects failed to engage other fields for material information.

My research project began with this Eckbo garden, a masterfully
detailed “outdoor room” and a reflection of one of the primary characteristics of the emerging California style of modern American landscape architecture, the indoor-outdoor relationship. This led to an investigation of the material expression of other American Modernists such as Robert Royston, Dan Kiley, James Rose, and Thomas Church. While at Dumbarton Oaks, I have investigated the work of Fletcher Steele, a transitional figure between the Beaux-Arts and modernism in landscape architecture. From Steele, I have begun to study the French modernist designers—Gabriel Guevrekian, the Vera brothers, Pierre-Émile Legrain, Robert Mallet-Stevens, and Tony Garnier—who heavily influenced Steele, who in turn disseminated his thoughts on these French designers through several articles. Taking note of Steele’s writings, the American modernists continued to be influenced by them for years to come, as evidenced by the innovative material expression that characterized their work.

Francois Dupuigrenet Desroussilles, Florida State University, “If Eve Had Had a Spade in Paradise . . .”: Elizabeth von Arnim and Her Gardens (1898–1914)”

One of the most unexpected literary successes of the period before the First World War was Elizabeth and Her German Garden, a chronicle of the life of the English spouse of a Prussian aristocrat in their Pomeranian Schloss, where she created a garden in her own image—wild and free. It became rapidly known that the author was a British woman in her thirties, Mary Beauchamp, who had become Gräfin von Arnim-Schlagenthin upon her marriage. She published twenty highly successful novels under the pen name “Elizabeth,” working until her death in 1941. Her literary oeuvre was rediscovered in the 1980s thanks to Virago Press, which republished her novels under the name Elizabeth Von Arnim. Historians of literature hence read her works, focusing on issues of feminine writing, but no one has endeavored to study what the German garden represented for contemporaneous garden writers and creators (such as Ellen Willmott or Gertrude Jekyll) and, more generally, for the women who identified in droves with her brand of “gardening feminism.” This is what I did during my sojourn at Dumbarton Oaks, after having studied the sources of the novel in the Arnim literary archive at the Huntington Library in May 2015. An article entitled “A Garden of One’s Own: Elizabeth and Her German Garden” will present the results of this research, along
with an unknown chapter of the “German Garden” that I discovered during the course of my research.

Josepha Richard, University of Sheffield, “The Gardens of Lingnan: Valorizing the Third Garden Culture in China”
I am a doctoral candidate studying the nineteenth-century gardens of the Guangdong province, which are at the origin of a regional garden culture known as Lingnan. I initially intended to focus my research on representations of Lingnan and Beijing gardens in both Western and Chinese sources (pictorial and written). I fulfilled this objective with the help of the rich Chinese garden collection at the library, notably in the Rare Books Reading Room. I also collected a substantial amount of Western travel accounts of China and broadened my knowledge of the history of China trade, especially from the point of view of American traders. Moreover, I took the opportunity to advance my knowledge of the existing literature on Chinese gardens, both in Chinese and Western languages, in order to offer a thorough literature review in my introductory chapters.

I came to Dumbarton Oaks to advance research for my dissertation, which is a comparative study of the multiple relationships between social activities and the natural contexts of public space in the seven British Concessions in China: Shanghai, Tianjin, Xiamen, Hankou, Guangzhou, Jiujiang, and Zhenjiang. I examine urban landscapes as sites of encounter between Britain and modern China, focusing on social activities in emergent public parks, where people not only confronted problems resulting from colonialism but also forged ideas about urban modernity. I explore the formation and nature of public parks in the British Concessions in China, and consider the forms of sociability and political ideas that became associated with them. Although I have made exhaustive use of twenty-seven libraries and archives in the United Kingdom, China, and Australia to obtain primary documents, the rich resources of Dumbarton Oaks, as well as interlibrary loans, offered a great number of valuable new sources on gardens and urban history, which I have been able to use to develop new ideas and to organize the materials I have already collected.
Mellon Fellows in Urban Landscape Studies

Christina Milos, University of Hannover, “Anticipatory Urbanization Strategies for In-Situ Oil Sands Extraction in Nigeria” (fall term)

Nigeria’s future will be shaped, in part, by the twin forces of urbanization and resource development. A key emerging resource expected to accelerate urbanization in southern Nigeria is the 140 km oil sands belt that stretches across Edo, Ondo, Ogun, and Lagos states. Estimated by Nigeria’s Ministry of Mines and Steel Development to contain 32–47 billion barrels of oil, Nigeria’s reserves of oil sands are the largest in Africa, and sixth largest in the world. Anticipating how resource development might spur urbanization and restructure landscapes in developing countries such as Nigeria poses a critical global challenge. Seeking to improve policy and planning mechanisms to respond to this challenge, my research asks two key questions: How might Nigeria’s future oil sands industry transform regional urban landscapes? What are potential transformative actions and decision points that may structure this future landscape? The research examines two historical cases: Canadian oil sands development and urban impacts, and Nigeria’s oil industry development and urban impacts in the Niger Delta. These cases are used as precedents to anticipate potential scenarios for future oil sands development. During the fellowship term at Dumbarton Oaks, I studied in detail the territorial, environmental, urban, and social impacts of Nigeria’s oil industry. This research will play a critical role in shaping knowledge products intended to raise awareness among Nigerian policy makers regarding the challenges that oil sands extraction poses to Nigeria’s urban landscapes.

Alpa Nawre, Kansas State University, “Adaptive Land-Water Edges in Indian Cities” (spring term)

The Mellon Fellowship in Urban Landscape Studies at Dumbarton Oaks has been a remarkable experience that has allowed me to develop a better understanding of the flexibility and sociocultural performance of urban land-water edges in India. During my fellowship term, I studied the data collected during my field studies and developed three papers. The first compares the ponds (talaab) and river edges (ghat) in India to synthesize aspects that enable them to act as vibrant social spaces; the second analyzes the role of religious
architecture at the *talaab* water edges; and the third explores the dual role of *ghat* infrastructure as a hybrid object and subject in the landscape. The Mellon Midday Dialogues were especially helpful, as they enabled me to connect with a practitioner with whom I am collaborating on a joint presentation on water landscapes for liveable cities at the American Society of Landscape Architects 2016 Annual Meeting. The fellowship has helped me not only to further the design understanding of urban water infrastructure as social landscapes but also to develop a broader perspective on better water management strategies in urban development.

Kara Schlichting, Queens College, City University of New York, “The Nature of Urban Coastal Resiliency: Twentieth-Century Governance, Environmental Management, and Design” (spring term)

While the coastal zone can be defined by landscape and its dynamic system of morphology and hydrography, it is also a construct, an idea imposed on a landscape to delineate governance powers. As a fellow, I investigated how the concept of the coastal zone was first developed in federal legislation in the 1970s, framing the littoral as a public utility in need of management and the location of substantial economic investment in need of protection. Through my research, I realized that—to understand how governance intersected with the material nature of the littoral—it was necessary to reframe the chronology of the coastal zone. The 1930s–1950s underscores work in environmental studies and coastal engineering that 1970s governance initiatives overshadows: hurricanes and the US Army Corps of Engineers’ (the corps) efforts to protect coasts from them. This history is defined not by legislation but the environment. In studying hurricanes, the corps first conceptualized the particular vulnerabilities of southern New England’s coastal zone. As a result, in 1957, the corps embarked on an ambitious hurricane-unique comprehensive survey of Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island. My research led me to two realizations that will frame future work. First, the corps’s work in the 1930s–1950s was frequently based on a conceptual binary that problematically disconnected the littoral’s land-water environments. Second, different frameworks developed around two definitions of coastal hazards: short-term, violent hazards (such as hurricanes), and long-term incremental hazards (such as sea-level rise or beach erosion). Due to these differing
evaluations, government agencies saw different things as being at risk, which inspired different modes of protection.

David Wooden, District Department of the Environment, “Washington’s Sewer History: Ideological, Technological, and Environmental Evolution” (fall term)

This project researched the origins of the District of Columbia’s sewer system. Most modern cities share some common histories regarding their development of sewer management techniques, but the district’s history has some unique characteristics due to its comparatively recent founding as a city by the District of Columbia Organic Act of 1801, its location on a tidal river, and its governmental structure as a capital city lacking self-government for most of its existence. The site of the district is directly related to its proximity to planned water infrastructure. Prior to becoming president, George Washington believed that a navigable Potomac River providing a connection to the emerging country’s frontier resources via the Ohio River was a national imperative. He made personal investments in a commercial enterprise, the Potowmac Company, to realize his vision. When Congress gave him the mission to select a site for the nation’s capital, he appointed a commission comprised of fellow investors. The commission selected a site at a portage along the Potomac River where a world capital emerged from tidal mud flats. The planned canal system was intended to extend into the city, transporting goods and resources vital to the growth of an ambitiously planned metropolis. The canal to the Ohio River became the Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Canal but never reached its intended destination to the west. The canal’s arm into the city became the Washington City Canal and the capital’s original and accidental sewer. Construction of the canal started shortly after the city’s founding along the courses of two existing streams: Tiber Creek and James Creek. Woefully underfunded and poorly constructed, the canal was mostly unnavigable and became the terminus for the city’s surface runoff and raw sewage. Known for its “accumulation of stagnant sewerage and filth” and as “a disgusting spectacle—a disgrace to the city and the nation,” the canal was entombed underground by the late nineteenth century and was largely lost from memory. As it was transformed from open sewer to subterranean tunnel, the canal became the origin from which today’s sewer gradually expanded as the city grew to Pierre L’Enfant’s planned extents and beyond.
Pre-Columbian Studies

Fellows

Christopher Beekman, University of Colorado, Denver,
“Out of Many, One: Collective Governance and Its Visual Ramifications in Pre-Columbian Jalisco, Mexico”

During my fellowship, I developed a book on collective governance in Mesoamerica circa 100 BC—AD 500. My case study is the Tequila valleys of highland Jalisco, where my archaeological research has identified an association between corporate groups and specific buildings within a larger architectural template. This association forces us to reassess characteristics of western Mexico that are attributed to a lack of sociopolitical complexity—the absence of sculpture aggrandizing individual rulers, the widespread distribution of hollow ceramic figures, and the modest size of public architecture. Seen within the particular political context of collective governance, in which multiple elite lineages existed side-by-side and were unable to monopolize power or the production of visual culture, I reinterpret these features in new ways. My research came to focus on three major components: (1) composing a history of research in western Mexico, and examining how the discovery of the archaeological Olmec and the definition of Mesoamerica led to the region’s marginalization in the 1940s; (2) identifying the culturally specific meanings of the symbols of authority and identity depicted in the region’s hollow ceramic figures; and (3) developing my narrative on how visual culture was used to reproduce and challenge power relationships. I have drafted three chapters in addition to those finished prior to the fellowship.

William Fash, Harvard University

During my fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks, I conducted intensive library research on the various Mesoamerican ballgames and stone courts, completing my chapters for the monograph that Barbara Fash and I are editing on the ball courts of Copan, Honduras, for the Peabody Museum Press. My chapters for two other edited volumes were also completed; a final, 523-page technical report on the investigations of Cuauhtinchan Viejo, Puebla, was submitted to Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, Mexico; and three coauthored papers for the annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology in April were prepared. During the first week
of March, Barbara and I fulfilled our fiduciary and academic responsibilities to the Santander Program for Research and Conservation of Mayan Sculpture, administered by Harvard’s David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, by traveling to Copan to supervise and to provide guidance for our ten staff at the regional Center for Archaeological Investigations. At the request of 2014–2015 Dumbarton Oaks fellow Jorge Ramos, we visited and shared thoughts about the new excavation program that Jorge is codirecting at the large Copan Valley residential compound of Group 8N-11. That work has provided compelling new evidence for the conclusions that Alexandre Tokovinine, Barbara Fash, and I adumbrated in the Dumbarton Oaks volume *The Art of Urbanism*, regarding the importance of the House of New Fire at Teotihuacán, Mexico, for Classic Maya dynasts and royal courts. Colleagues on the Copan Acropolis Project and I corresponded frequently regarding our upcoming summary volume, and I supervised the completion of two doctoral dissertations.

**Takeshi Inomata, University of Arizona, “Ritual and Politics at the Preclassic Maya Center of Ceibal, Guatemala”**

During my fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks, I began working on a three-volume monograph series with my colleague, Daniela Triadan, to report the results of our research at the lowland Maya site of Ceibal, Guatemala. Although this is a large writing project that will require multiple years of work, the fellowship allowed me to make significant progress and to examine comparative data. The primary theme of our monographs is the origins of Maya civilization. We trace interplays between local processes, such as the transition to full sedentism and political centralization, and interactions with other areas, including Olmec civilization. Another theme of importance is political decline at the end of the Classic period. Our work demonstrates that this process involved multiple episodes of political collapse, which happened more rapidly than previously thought.

In addition, I worked on articles on Preclassic Maya lowland-highland relations (published in *Antiquity*) and the Maya concept of time (to be published in *Journal de la Société des Américanistes*), as well as book chapters on Andean plazas and the development of Maya ceremonial complexes. Along with these writing projects, I continued my research on Ceibal. At Dumbarton Oaks, I processed the Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data of a 20 x 20 km area around
Ceibal, which we obtained during the field season of spring 2015. This dataset shows the distribution of ceremonial complexes and residential groups over the landscape on an unprecedented scale.

Daniela Triadan, University of Arizona, “The Development of Social Inequality at the Preclassic Maya Center of Ceibal, Guatemala”

The project at the Maya site of Ceibal has revealed one of the earliest public ritual constructions, which was built while most of the population was still leading a mobile lifestyle. During my fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks, I investigated the beginnings of social differentiation and considered how these developments articulated changes in patterns of regional and interregional interactions. I analyzed and synthesized ceramic sourcing data and carried out an analysis of the excavated figurines. I examined the production, distribution, and consumption of ceramics as well as their implications for technological changes and interactions with other communities. My analyses show that throughout the Preclassic period the majority of the pottery was locally produced at Ceibal, and that very few pots were imported into the settlement. I could also trace shifts in resource exploitation and paste recipes. This indicates that utilitarian goods (such as pottery) were not widely exchanged with other areas. The Preclassic figurines, on the other hand, show similarities with those of other lowland sites, the Guatemalan highlands, and the Grijalva River Basin of Chiapas, suggesting the knowledge of generalized conventions and ideas over a large area. Together with Olmec-style objects that were most likely imported into Ceibal, this suggests that long-distance interactions may have taken place mainly through connections of emergent elites who were also likely ritual specialists.

Erika Brant, University of Virginia, “The Dead Rose from the Ground: Ancestors and Political Authority in a Post-Collapse Andean Society (1000–1450 CE)”

During my fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks, I examined the role of ancestor veneration in the political reorganization that occurred after the collapse of the Tiwanaku state around AD 1000. Specifically, my research focused on the Peruvian site of Sillustani, the foremost necropolis and pilgrimage center of the post-collapse Colla ethnic
group. The examination of a variety of archaeological materials (including architectural, ceramic, and faunal data) allowed me to conclude that Sillustani was the site of commemorative feasts that both generated and reinforced more equitable forms of sociality in the years following collapse. Over the course of my eight-month fellowship, I finalized three chapters of my dissertation, drafted one additional chapter, presented my research to the Pre-Columbian Society of Washington, DC, and completed an article that is currently under review. In addition, conversations with another Dumbarton Oaks junior fellow, Jennifer Saracino, resulted in an organized session on indigenous landscapes that will be held at the 2016 meeting of the American Society for Ethnohistory; the proceedings of this session will be published by the University Press of Colorado.

Rebecca Mendelsohn, University at Albany, State University of New York, “The Early Mesoamerican City of Izapa and the Southern Maya Region”

My fellowship year enabled me to make significant strides on several writing projects. I completed six chapters of my dissertation, and advanced several publication projects by submitting one article to the Journal of Field Archaeology, preparing another for Ancient Mesoamerica, and contributing to a third for Latin American Antiquity (with Robert Rosenswig). These projects detail the results of my archaeological excavations and artifact analyses associated with an important cultural transition (100 BC–AD 400) at the early urban center of Izapa, located along the southern Pacific coast of Mexico. My write-up of the ceramics was significantly aided by access to difficult-to-obtain ceramic reports held in the Dumbarton Oaks Library. My work was also greatly enhanced by discussions and feedback from this year’s cohort of fellows. The opportunity to discuss my research with Takeshi Inomata was an especially beneficial outcome of this year, as we are both working with similar issues of ceramic chronologies and interaction between our disparate study areas, the Pacific Coast and the Maya lowlands. I also shared common interests in the collapse and reorganization of ancient civilizations with scholars working in regions as distinct as Mesoamerica, the Andes, and Byzantium. These conversations have helped me to understand the ways in which events at Izapa both share common underlying processes with other areas and reveal unique human responses to similar phenomena.
Jennifer Saracino, Tulane University, “Shifting Landscape: Depictions of Environmental and Cultural Disruption in the Mapa Uppsala”

My fellowship allowed me to continue research on my dissertation project that investigates the Mapa Uppsala, the earliest known map of Mexico City painted by indigenous artists after the conquest. The map presents the city and its environs and includes depictions of indigenous people engaged in a variety of activities, a detailed rendering of the valley’s roads and waterways, and almost two hundred indigenous place glyphs. By combining studies of indigenous mapmaking traditions (both Pre-Columbian and early colonial) with a visual analysis of the map’s composition, my project focuses on how the Mapa Uppsala is a carefully constructed, visual testament to the lived experience of its indigenous artists.

Throughout my fellowship, I analyzed the library’s collection of facsimiles of Pre-Columbian and early colonial indigenous-made manuscripts. I focused particularly on the artists’ employment of indigenous cartographic conventions and depiction of space in the Mapa Uppsala, as compared to the diverse corpus of extant indigenous-made materials we have from Central Mexico. As a direct result of this research, I am able to demonstrate in my dissertation how the Mapa Uppsala’s indigenous artists creatively combined elements of Pre-Columbian and European pictorial tradition to innovate cartographic production. This research contributes to our understanding of the resilience, continuity, and transformation of indigenous pictorial tradition after the Spanish conquest. This fellowship also enabled me to complete several articles for publication that illuminate aspects of sixteenth-century indigenous manuscript production, including facture, workshop practices, and collaboration among artists.

Summer Fellows
Kirby Farah, University of California, Riverside, “Palace and Home: Creating and Maintaining an Elite Identity at Postclassic Xaltocan”

My time at Dumbarton Oaks was focused on enriching the data I gathered in archaeological excavations at Xaltocan, Mexico, and on writing my dissertation. My dissertation concentrates on successive elite residences at Postclassic Xaltocan, and specifically considers the domestic practices that took place in these residences and how
these practices and use of space changed over time. Ethnohistorical records and archaeological reports from comparable sites in the Basin of Mexico were fruitful resources. Practices of remembering became one focal point for my research, and I examined how elites at Xaltocan chose to build and rebuild their residences as political and social circumstances shifted through time. This research developed into broader questions about place-making and community-wide perceptions of elite residences as both centers of power and houses where mundane activities took place. Another research avenue focused on alternative methods for defining class relationships through the lens of material culture. I searched for models that pushed beyond the deeply entrenched elite-commoner dichotomy to explore other methods for understanding the subtle complexities of relationships between the rulers and the ruled. In the case of my own research, this is especially important because architectural differences between elite residences and commoner residences were vast, but associated artifacts were quite similar. My dissertation will explore this incongruence and its greater meaning.


The main objectives of my research project were the paleography and translation of the Nahuatl and Spanish glosses of the Oztoticpac Lands Map. This early colonial document related to the inquisitorial process and execution of don Carlos Ome Tochtli, son of Nezahualpilli, the last prehispanic ruler of Tetzcoco. The map presents detailed plans of the Tetzcoco ruling family’s collective properties alongside land plots owned by don Carlos. The plans are accompanied by brief glosses in Spanish and more detailed texts written in the Classical Nahuatl, the main native language spoken in Central Mexico in the early sixteenth century. These glosses contain rich and unique data about antecedents of don Carlos’s execution and Nahua land tenure patterns. However, their paleography and translation pose serious challenges due to the damage caused by worms, fading ink, and the specifics of the sixteenth-century orthography. In order to solve these problems and to provide a careful paleography and adequate translation of the document’s alphabetical texts, the work was divided into three stages. First, a list of all the alphabetically written texts was made. Each text received
a number, indicating its location on the map and conventional title by its first word(s). Second, the paleography of all the glosses was done in accordance with modern rules of transcription of ancient Spanish and Nahuatl manuscripts. Finally, the texts were translated into modern Spanish and compared with Tetzocan pictorial documents, works of colonial native historians, and the materials of the inquisitorial process against don Carlos Ome Tochtli.

Matthew Looper, California State University, Chico, “Deer Imagery in Ancient Maya Art”
During my fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks, I conducted research for a book project on deer imagery in ancient Maya art, particularly as represented on painted and carved ceramics from the Classic period. In addition to iconographic and epigraphic approaches, the study employs comparisons of these images with hunting-related lore from the colonial and modern eras. Owing to conversations with other fellows, I was initially inspired to work on the chapter concerning the relationship of deer to status, as reflected in imagery and texts, as well as on the archaeological evidence of trade and the consumption of venison. After completing this chapter, I moved on to two other chapters: deer deities and lore in the codices, and deer spirits (wahy).

Although these investigations are ongoing, I was able to compile a large and comprehensive catalog of relevant imagery, owing in part to access I was given by Juan Antonio Murro to the Maya Ceramic Archive, housed in the Dumbarton Oaks Museum. In this extremely important archive, I located a number of images of deer deities and related hunting imagery that will be of major significance in the final study. In addition, during my stay at Dumbarton Oaks, I was able to arrange visits to a number of museum collections, including the Smithsonian storage facilities in Suitland, Maryland, and several collections in Baltimore, in order to photograph objects relevant to the project.

David Reed, University of Michigan, “Maya in the Middle”
Who composed the middle tiers of ancient Maya polities? Estimating the social status of interred individuals assists us in exploring other dimensions of society, such as differential access to resources. My work presents a reconsideration of how to determine status from mortuary data by showing that some aspects of mortuary remains reflect the social organizational context of the burial. Our mortuary analysis
of Classic-period Copan finds that ancient Maya social organization was continuous, highly variable, and without clear demarcations. This raises questions of how the middle strata emerged and functioned, what economic and power relationships were formed, and how social organization operated as a whole.

New approaches are unraveling the complex structure and variability between and within Maya polities, and show an increasing appreciation of the plurality of social positions, from royalty to captives. But we still have a poor understanding of the workings of entire systems, largely due to incomplete explanatory theoretical models. My time at Dumbarton Oaks was used to advance the discussion. I believe that delving further into these issues requires the continued application of sophisticated analytical methods alongside extensive work on sociopolitical organization theory. As a result of my summer fellowship, I have uncovered recent bioarchaeological data that will enlarge our database and add a new dimension—migration—to our work. Additionally, I began the study of theoretical approaches that are recent to archaeological explanation—structuration, collective action, and pragmatism. These approaches may aid our understanding of ancient sociopolitical complexity.
Byzantine Studies

The spirit of engagement and collaboration in the humanities that began at Dumbarton Oaks seventy-five years ago continued to flourish this year. Byzantine Studies hosted fellows, junior fellows, and visitors from institutions in sixteen countries (Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States), making this anniversary year one of international celebration and intellectual cross-fertilization.

Summer Programs
The year began in July 2015, with the summer school in coins and seals directed by Professor Vasiliki (Vasso) Penna of the University of the Peloponnese and by Dr. Eric McGeer. Eight participants, from institutions in the United States, Italy, Greece, Hungary, and the United Kingdom, worked together in the coin room and discussed their research during long evenings in the gardens and in the Guest House.

An equally eclectic group of summer fellows made great strides in their work that will result in publications. Anne-Catherine Baudoin explored how noncanonical Christian texts spread in medieval Byzantium and neighboring lands. Branislav Cvetković studied the fifteenth-century reliquary of Barbara Frankopan Branković. Reyhan Durmaz worked on Christian and Islamic hagiographical traditions. Roberta Franchi examined evidence for female deaconesses in early Byzantine Constantinople. Przemyslaw Marciniak studied Byzantine
dialogues of *Hermippos*, *Hermodotos*, and *Musokles*. Mark Masterson examined same-sex male desire among elites in the Macedonian period. Brian Matz considered the Filioque controversy in the Middle Byzantine period. Phillip Mazero worked on Byzantine-Venetian frontier politics from the seventh to the twelfth century.

**The Academic Year**

A vibrant community in Byzantine Studies coalesced early during the 2015–2016 fellowship year, setting the foundation for nearly nine months of intense intellectual exchange and productive research. Fellows and junior fellows from England, Greece, Italy, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, Turkey, and the United States comprised an exceptionally friendly and compatible group of scholars who made the most of their time at Dumbarton Oaks.

Six fellows and four junior fellows were in residence this year, augmented by Jeffrey Hamburger, a visiting professor from Harvard. Leslie Brubaker and Mary Cunningham gave their primary efforts to a coauthored book about the cult of the Virgin Mary in Byzantium between ca. 400–1204, working with both literary and visual materials. Stig Frøyshov considered the use of the Jerusalem Book of Hours in various ecclesiastical contexts in Constantinople. Jeffrey Hamburger drafted a book about medieval diagrams; the book is based on a series of lectures delivered at the University of Chicago that will be published as *From Cross to Crucifix: Berthold of Nuremberg’s Reconfiguration of Hrabanus Maurus’s Treatise on the Cross*. As part of a larger project on the development of Christian society in late antique Greece, Yuri Marano examined the phenomenon of burials near the body or relics of a saint or martyr. Textual matters concerned Fabio Pagani, who brought together philology, paleography, and textual criticism in a study of the place of classical philosophy in Byzantium in the late fourteenth century. Nikolaos Zagklas revised his dissertation into a book about the twelfth-century poet Theodore Prodromos, to be published by Oxford University Press.

The junior fellows were equally productive. They all finished their dissertations: Ludovic Bender wrote on monastic landscapes in eleventh- to fifteenth-century Laconia; Siren Celik completed a multifaceted biography of the emperor Manuel II Palaiologos; Bradley Hostetler wrote about Byzantine reliquaries inscribed with epigrams;
Byzantine and Roman Shliakhtin studied the identity of Seljuk Turks as constructed by Byzantine writers. Çelik and Shliakhtin won postdoctoral fellowships at Koç University for next year, while Hostetler will be working at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Lectures and Discussions
The Byzantine community enjoyed an exceptionally rich panoply of speakers this year. In October, visiting scholar Claudia Rapp filled the Music Room with an illustrated public lecture on “Saint Catherine’s Monastery in the Sinai and Its Hidden Manuscript Treasures.” On April 6, visiting scholar Jonathan Shepard led a seminar on “Anna Komnena, Peter the Hermit, and Framing the First Crusade.” Something new was tried when Nicola Di Cosmo of the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, presented the first interprogram lecture, “Climate, Ecology, and Mobility in the History of Eurasian Steppe Nomads,” on December 9. Her presentation was aimed at a broad audience in all three programs of study to encourage and facilitate cross-disciplinary work.

We enjoyed many in-house talks. Jeffrey Hamburger shared his enthusiasm and expertise with “The Diagram Paradigm: The Diagrammatic Mode in Medieval Art and Beyond” on October 20. Jonathan Shea gave the fellows an introduction to the seals collection on March 31, while Cécile Morrison offered a seminar on the coin collection on April 27. Betsy Williams and Gudrun Bühl offered two seminars on the museum’s textile collection in May. Ludovic Bender spoke about a number of databases, including “Artifacts and Raw Materials in Byzantine Archival Documents” on October 21. Stig Frøyshov and Stephanos Alexopoulos introduced their Catalogue of Byzantine Manuscripts (CBM) on January 19, while one-month visitor Kristoffel Demoen explained his database of Byzantine book epigrams on May 3.

One of the great pleasures of the year was to welcome scholars from other institutions to give presentations on their current research. András Németh (Vatican Apostolic Library) spoke on “A Byzantine Appropriation of the Past: The Excerpta Constantiniana Revisited” on March 29. Dimitri Korobeinikov (State University of New York, Albany) talked about “Emperors of Byzantium and Sultans of Rûm: A Dual Sovereignty? Byzantine Aristocratic Families and
Their Relations with the Seljuks” on April 12. Maria Lidova (Oxford University) explained her “Empires of Faith” project on October 7, and Matt Savage (Louisiana State University) spoke about “Hıramı Ahmet Paşa Camii: A Ninth-Century Cross-in-Square Church in Constantinople; Architecture, Liturgy, Function, Historical Significance” on April 19. All of these informal talks provoked intense and productive discussion.

Very practical matters came under discussion as well. After the Byzantine Studies Conference in New York, Michael Sharp, an editor at Cambridge University Press, came to Dumbarton Oaks to discuss academic publishing with the Byzantine group and to speak with them individually about projects underway. A few days later, Michael Maas held a workshop on writing letters of application for academic jobs. Many people attended from all three areas of study.

Special Activities
Early in the first term, Byzantine Studies welcomed local Byzantinists to a potluck reception in the gardens.

Another highlight of the first semester was Byzantine Studies’ contribution to the 75th Anniversary celebration. On November 13, the Byzantine fellows and junior fellows presented “Byzantine Studies, Dumbarton Oaks, and the Humanities,” sharing their ideas about the challenges and opportunities faced by our field in the future. A large audience from all three programs participated in a lively discussion in the Oak Room at 1700 Wisconsin Avenue.

Once again, Teaching Fellows’ Day was a great success. On February 20, ninety-four undergraduate students and teachers from seven universities enjoyed talks by Jonathan Shea, Betsy Williams, and Eric McGeer on “Discovering Byzantine Lives: Evidence in Texts, Images, and Material Culture.”

An important new collaboration with the National Gallery of Art took place in two parts this spring. On February 11, before a large audience in the National Gallery, Ioli Kalavrezou, Jonathan Shea, and Dimitri Kastritis presented papers on the afterlives of Alexander in the Byzantine world. Michael Maas moderated the panel and discussion; this presentation was followed by an entertaining and informative public lecture by Anthony Kaldellis entitled “From Olympus
to the Streets of Constantinople: The Byzantine Retirement of the Ancient Gods” on March 3 at the National Gallery of Art.

April 22–23 saw the annual Byzantine symposium on the “Worlds of Byzantium,” which was organized by Betsy Bolman, Scott Fitzgerald Johnson, and Jack Tannous. The speakers argued before a packed house in the Music Room for a “polycentric and interconnected Byzantium” that played an essential part in the larger medieval world of Europe and the Middle East.

Finally, this was a year of transition. Michael Maas completed a year as director of Byzantine Studies and, with the assistance of the indefatigable program coordinator Seh-Hee Koh, organized office procedures and publication materials to ensure a smooth passing of the torch to his successor Elena Boeck, whose term begins in July. During his year, Maas saw a volume of Dumbarton Oaks Papers transmitted to production; the volume Knowing Bodies, Passionate Souls: Sense Perceptions in Byzantium, edited by Margaret Mullett and Susan Harvey, also was prepared and transmitted for production.

Scholarly Activities

Annual Symposium
Worlds of Byzantium
April 22–23, 2016
Organized by Elizabeth S. Bolman, Temple University,
Scott F. Johnson, University of Oklahoma, and
Jack Tannous, Princeton University

Scott F. Johnson, University of Oklahoma, “A New Byzantine Commonwealth”
Kostis Kourelis, Franklin and Marshall College, “How Byzantines became Greeks: Greek Nationalism and Byzantine Studies”
Averil Cameron, University of Oxford, “Byzantium and the Turn to the East”
Antoine Borrut, University of Maryland, “Islamic Late Antiquity, Byzantium, and Iran”
Robin Darling Young, Catholic University of America, “King and God(s) in Early Armenian Sagas”
Speakers at the Byzantine symposium “Worlds of Byzantium.”

**Stephen Rapp**, Sam Houston State University, “Byzantine Georgia / Georgian Byzantium”  
**Alicia Walker**, Bryn Mawr College, “Art at the Edges: Shifting Perceptions of the Middle Byzantine Eastern Periphery”  
**Elizabeth Bolman**, Temple University, “The Dynamics of Place and Space in Early Byzantine Visual Culture”  
**Arietta Papaconstantinou**, University of Reading, “Babel on the Bosporus? Languages in the Byzantine World”  
**Jack Tannous**, Princeton University, “Byzantine Syriac and Byzantine Arabic”
Daniel Galadza, University of Vienna, “Jerusalem’s Liturgy and Its Byzantinization”

Cecily Hilsdale, McGill University, “The Social Lives of Things East of Byzantium”

Columba Stewart, Hill Museum and Manuscript Library / Saint John’s University, “East of Byzantium Revisited”

Teaching Fellows’ Day

*Discovering Byzantine Lives: Evidence in Texts, Images, and Material Culture*
February 20, 2016

Elizabeth Williams, Dumbarton Oaks, “Dress and Identity in Early Byzantium”

Jonathan Shea, Dumbarton Oaks, “Knowing Me, Knowing You: Seals and Self-Identity”


Public Lectures

October 1, 2015

Claudia Rapp, University of Vienna, “Saint Catherine’s Monastery in the Sinai and its Hidden Manuscript Treasures”

December 9, 2015

Nicola Di Cosmo, Institute for Advanced Study, “Climate, Ecology, and Mobility in the History of Eurasian Steppe Nomads”

March 3, 2016

Anthony Kaldellis, Ohio State University, “From Olympus to the Streets of Constantinople: The Byzantine Retirement of the Ancient Gods” at the National Gallery of Art

Talks

September 28, 2015

Ludovic Bender, University of Fribourg, “Hermitages and Rock-Monasteries of Laconia (Eleventh–Fifteenth Century): The Landscape of Monasticism in a Byzantine Region”
October 19, 2015
Nathaniel Aschenbrenner, Harvard University, “Rome Contested: Byzantine, Humanist, and Holy Roman Discourses of Empire in the Fifteenth Century”

October 20, 2015
Jeffrey Hamburger, Harvard University, “The Diagram Paradigm: The Diagrammatic Mode in Medieval Art and Beyond”

November 9, 2015
Siren Celik, University of Birmingham, “A Historical Biography of Manuel II Palaiologos (1350–1425)”

November 23, 2015
Roman Shliakhtin, Central European University, “The Image of the Seljuk Turks among the Byzantine Literati of the Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries”

November 30, 2015
Stig Frøyshov, University of Oslo, “The Horologion in Constantinople and Peripheries: Palatine, Secular, and Monastic Contexts”

February 1, 2016
Leslie Brubaker, University of Birmingham, “The Virgin Mary in the Byzantine World, 400–1200”

February 22, 2016
David Ungvary, Harvard University, “Anxiety, Artifice, and Asceticism: Christian Latin Poetic Culture, AD 500–700”

March 7, 2016

March 14, 2016
Mary Cunningham, University of Nottingham, “The Virgin Mary in the Byzantine World, 400–1200: Images, Texts, Relics, and Ceremony”
April 4, 2016  
**Yuri Marano**, Collège de France, Monde Byzantin, “The Privileged Burials of Early Byzantine Greece (Early Fourth to Early Seventh Century CE)”

April 11, 2016  
**Fabio Pagani**, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities, “Studying Plato at Mystra: New Perspectives on Gemistos Pletho and His School”

April 25, 2016  

**Summer Program**  
Byzantine Coins and Seals Summer Program  
July 6–31, 2015  
Faculty: **Eric McGeer** and **Vasiliki Penna**

Participants: Sergio Basso, Stefanos Dimitriadis, Polina Ivanova, Rózsa Márton, Nikolaos Mastrochristos, Brian Salas, Panagiotis Theodoropoulos, and Rossana Valente
Garden and Landscape Studies

Garden and Landscape Studies saw an unprecedented level of activity in 2015–2016, an expression of both existing and new initiatives. We continued to host the fellowships, public programs, and academic events that are the core missions of the program, while generating several major new publications and launching the first full year of our program in Urban Landscape Studies, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation through their initiative in “Architecture, Urbanism, and the Humanities.”

New publications included the proceedings of the 2013 symposium Cultural Landscape Heritage in Sub-Saharan Africa, and two titles in our recently launched translation series, ex horto. Sub-Saharan Africa is one of the longest occupied and least studied landscapes on earth; the symposium volume is a contribution to a small but growing effort to address this gap in scholarship. Its essays present a range of landscapes: pathways and cairns used by nomadic peoples to navigate and mark significant places; anthropogenic or managed forests consecrated for ritual purposes of various kinds; tombs or palaces with significant landscape orientations and components; even monumental ceremonial and urban spaces, as at Great Zimbabwe or Djenne. They explore what we know of precolonial and later indigenous designed landscapes, how these landscapes were understood in the colonial era, and how they are being recuperated today for nation building, identity formation, and cultural affirmation.

The new titles in ex horto include the first translation into English of the Kangxi Emperor’s poems and prose descriptions of the

John Beardsley works with a group of landscape and architecture students from the Phelps Architecture, Construction, and Engineering High School in Northeast DC.
The translations, by Richard Strassberg, with introductions by him and art historian Stephen Whiteman, have been published together with the first side-by-side reproductions of the complete wood-blocks and copperplate engravings commissioned by the emperor, which were instrumental in bringing knowledge of Chinese gardens to Europe. The other is the first complete translation into English of Prince Hermann von Pückler-Muskau’s *Letters of a Dead Man*, composed while on a lengthy tour of England beginning in September 1826. Pückler’s main purpose in making this journey was to find a wealthy wife, in order that he might complete his elaborate plans for transforming two thousand acres near the southwest corner of his vast realm into an ideal landscape park. His letters are of interest not only for their many descriptions of landscape, architecture, and gardens but also for the ways in which they situate these places in the context of the social, political, and cultural life of late Enlightenment Europe. This publication was launched with a presentation by translator Linda Parshall at the German Embassy on April 13.

The annual spring symposium, held May 6–7 and organized by Garden and Landscape Studies director John Beardsley and Boston University architectural history professor Daniel Bluestone, was on the subject of “Landscape and the Academy.” Universities are custodians of some of the world’s most significant designed landscapes. Historical campuses are the centers of academic life, but universities also manage gardens, botanical gardens, arboreta, farms, forests, biotic reserves, and even far-flung environmental research stations. The symposium explored how and why universities have come to be responsible for so many different kinds of landscapes and what role they play today in academic life, pedagogy, and cultural politics. Organized on the occasion of the seventy-fifth anniversary of Dumbarton Oaks, which certainly counts among the most significant cultural landscapes in any university’s care, the symposium addressed both the history of academic landscapes and their prospects and perils as universities go global and digital.

The fall colloquium, “Frontiers in Urban Landscape Research,” was held on November 20; an element of the Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies, it took the form of a graduate workshop. Doctoral candidates in advanced stages of writing dissertations on
topics in the history and design of urban landscapes were invited to share selected aspects of their work with each other and with senior designers and scholars in the field. This colloquium was an opportunity to bring together early-career scholars pursuing cross-disciplinary work and shaping new approaches to the urban environment. It was intended to generate greater awareness of the urban humanities, while helping an emerging generation of scholars advance their work across a range of relevant fields.

This year, Garden and Landscape Studies collaborated with the Zentrum für Gartenkunst + Landschaftsarchitektur (CGL) at the Leibniz Universität Hannover on a three-day symposium “Reisen und Gärten (Travels and Gardens),” held on February 24–26 in the newly restored Schloss Herrenhausen, at the head of a celebrated baroque garden in Hannover, Germany. A follow-up to the colloquium “Travel
and Translation,” hosted by Dumbarton Oaks on November 1, 2013, this event aimed to further our understanding of the role of travel in the exchange of ideas about landscape design, botanical knowledge, and horticultural techniques, while strengthening the long-standing intellectual ties between our two institutions.

In recognition of the seventy-fifth anniversary of Dumbarton Oaks, observed during the 2015–2016 academic year, Garden and Landscape Studies organized panels on landscape history at the annual meetings of the College Art Association (CAA) on February 4, and the Society of Architectural Historians (SAH) on April 7. The CAA panel, “Landscape into History,” was organized by John Beardsley with Jennifer Raab, a former fellow now teaching at Yale University. Characterized by distinct outlooks cultivated in different academic departments, art history and landscape studies nevertheless
have a common origin. The CAA session looked both forward and back, exploring the connections between the histories of art and landscape while investigating the potential for more productive interchange between the two disciplines in the twenty-first century. The SAH panel, “Reframing Landscape History,” organized by John Beardsley and Anatole Tchikine, reflected on the history and the current disciplinary status of garden and landscape studies, addressing the different methodological approaches, institutional frameworks, and individual visions that have informed the field’s past and are shaping its future.

Other academic events during the year included an April 14 lecture, “Olympic Landscapes: Green and Greenest,” by Mary Margaret Jones, president and senior principal of Hargreaves Associates in San Francisco and Cambridge, Massachusetts, and Hargreaves Jones Landscape Architecture in New York. Jones has led a number of the firm’s award-winning projects around the globe, including the master concept design for the 2000 Sydney Olympics and the parklands for the 2012 London Olympics, which were the subject of her talk. Another lecture, “The Monster in the Garden: Early Modern Landscape Design and the Grotesque,” was delivered by Luke Morgan of Monash University, Australia, on October 15. We also hosted a March 23 screening in conjunction with the Environmental Film Festival of the film Containment by Harvard historian of science Peter Galison and filmmaker Robb Moss about the effort to manage and warn future generations about repositories of nuclear waste. Jane Padelford, program coordinator, continued in her role of skillfully managing all the department’s academic events and public programs, as well as its many short-term academic visitors, including research stipend recipients and predoctoral residents.

This was the first full year of the Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies, which aims to bring together landscape architects and historians to explore how urban environments got to be the way they are and how best to manage them today. This grant is one of fifteen made so far to major institutions of higher education and research by the Mellon Foundation; these grants are aimed to foster the joint contributions that the humanities and the design and planning disciplines may make to the understanding of the processes and effects of burgeoning urbanization. To this end, the Mellon Initiative at Dumbarton Oaks hosts two fellows each semester, one
designer and one scholar, and encourages them to work together and with other fellows in the Dumbarton Oaks community. It also invites distinguished practitioners to reside at Dumbarton Oaks for shorter terms. In 2015–2016, the Mellon senior practitioner resident was landscape architect Gary Hilderbrand, a founding partner of Reed Hilderbrand LLC, Cambridge and New Haven. Hilderbrand, a committed designer, teacher, critic, and writer, is professor in practice at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, where he has taught since 1990. The Mellon fellows were David Wooden, Christina Milos, Kara Schlichting, and Alpa Nawre. Jeanne Haffner, a historian with special interests in urban planning history and theory, the history of science and technology, cultural geography, and environmental history, was engaged to help manage the program as the Mellon postdoctoral fellow in Urban Landscape Studies.

Developing synergies between Mellon fellows and other fellows at Dumbarton Oaks is a key focus of the Mellon Initiative. Discussions among fellows and practitioners are fostered through weekly Midday Dialogues with invited speakers, landscape-related field trips, and the presentation of works-in-progress. During the 2015–2016 academic year, invited Midday Dialogue speakers touched upon a wide variety of urban landscape topics, from an urban history of the idea of “informality” in Brazil to contemporary environmental design in Mumbai, India. Field trips to the Washington Aqueduct and Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant inspired alliances between fellows working on water-related topics, including between Wooden, who is writing a history of water treatment in the district, and Tyler fellow John Davis, who is researching the Army Corps of Engineers. In spring 2016, Schlichting, a historian, and Nawre, a designer, joined forces to augment their shared interests in the history, evolution, and management of urban water systems. Nawre was inspired through discussions with Schlichting to “reconsider the values that she ascribes to the design of any space.” Schlichting, for her part, attested to the benefits of working with a practitioner such as Nawre, because it reminded her of the importance of the physical and social attributes of lived space.

In addition to fellowships, an important dimension of the Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies is providing outreach to underserved high school students in the district. This aspect of the program was launched in April and May 2016, with a series of field trips to
Dumbarton Oaks. A group of landscape and architecture students from the Phelps Architecture, Construction, and Engineering High School in northeast DC, for example, visited the historic garden at Dumbarton Oaks to explore principles of landscape art and the design and construction of plant beds, which led to a discussion of the importance of biodiversity in cities. In May, the program offered workshops on urban vegetation, focusing on tree identification at Dumbarton Oaks (“Tree Notebooks”) on May 3 and 9, and ways of bringing nature into the city (“City of Trees”) on May 11. Two of these programs involved students from Ward 8, perhaps the most economically disadvantaged area of the district. The Mellon Initiative also hosted a Teen Council meeting for high school students in the Design Apprenticeship Program of the National Building Museum on May 14, introducing them to the different design elements and management strategies of the Dumbarton Oaks Gardens and adjacent Dumbarton Oaks Park, managed as an urban forest by the National Park Service. We also initiated discussions with the Urban Studies Curator at the Anacostia Community Museum, Smithsonian Institution, about potential future collaborations, such as public programming around a forthcoming exhibit on neighborhood change in Washington, DC.

Garden and Landscape Studies benefitted this year from an unusually strong contingent of scholars in residence. The community included two full-year fellows, two one-term fellows, and two full-year junior fellows, in addition to the four one-term Mellon fellows. We also hosted two William R. Tyler fellows, Harvard graduate students who divided their time between their own dissertation research and an institutional project. Deirdre Moore helped plan, design, and implement a pollinator garden as an experiment in bringing additional biodiversity to the gardens, while John Davis created a digital “water atlas,” revealing where water comes from and goes to in the city, from the Washington Aqueduct to the Blue Plains Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant. In addition to expanding the institution’s research in the digital humanities, the project created a bridge between the activities of our fellows and the Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies. We were also fortunate this year to have an extended stay from visiting scholar Alison Hardie, a specialist in Chinese garden history, who came to complete work on the long-term project to publish an anthology of translations of Chinese
garden literature. Instigated nearly two decades ago, the translations were edited for publication several years ago by Duncan Campbell. Professor Hardie was able to complete the introductory essay, introductions to the nine chapters of the book, and header notes for each of the hundreds of translated texts. We hope that her efforts will finally bring this project to conclusion, signaling our commitment to sustaining the level of activity and achievement we have been aspiring to in recent years.

Scholarly Activities

Annual Symposium

*Landscape and the Academy*

May 6–7, 2016

Organized by **John Beardsley**, Dumbarton Oaks, and **Daniel Bluestone**, Boston University

**Peter Alagona**, University of California, Santa Barbara, “From the Classroom to the Countryside: The University of California’s Natural Reserve System and the Role of Field Stations in American Academic Life”

**Hilary Ballon**, New York University, “The U.S. Campus Abroad”


**John Davis**, Harvard University, “Field School: The Landscape of the United States Military Academy at West Point”

**Hazel Ruth Edwards**, The Catholic University of America, “On Hilltop High: The Enduring and Nurturing Landscapes of the Howard University Campus”

**Burak Erdim**, North Carolina State University, “Academy and Landscapes of Development: Situating Planning Cultures in the Cold War Middle East”

**David Foster**, Harvard Forest, “Harvard’s Forest and Farm: A Consistent Mission to the Academy and Society”

**Gary Hilderbrand**, Harvard Graduate School of Design, “Transforming Campus Paradigms: Two Olmsted Brothers Cases”
Speakers at the 2016 Garden and Landscape symposium, “Landscape and the Academy.”

Mark Hough, Duke University, and Linda Jewell, University of California, Berkeley, “Campus and Garden: Reconciling Typologies”

John Dixon Hunt, University of Pennsylvania, “‘Landscape’ in New British Universities”

Karen Van Lengen, University of Virginia, “Pedagogical Landscapes: The Vassar College Legacy”

Tianjie Zhang, Tianjin University, “Reconfiguring Mountain-and-Water (Shanshui) Campuses: Landscape Planning in Early Twentieth-Century Chinese Universities”

Public Lectures
October 15, 2015

April 14, 2016
Mary Margaret Jones, Hargreaves Jones Landscape Architecture, “Olympic Landscapes: Green and Greenest”

Talks
October 20, 2015

December 1, 2015
Alison Hardie, Leeds University, “Having Fun in a Chinese Garden”

December 9, 2015

January 20, 2016
John Davis, Dumbarton Oaks / Harvard University, “DC Water Atlas”

February 23, 2016
Margaret Goehring, New Mexico State University, “Thoughts about Late Medieval Ornament and the Opening Miniature for Guillaume de Machaut’s ‘Dit dou Lyon’”
March 9, 2016
**Hugh Livingston**, Livingston Sound, “Garden Quartet, Mostly Intermezzos, Some Preludes, No Cadenzas”

April 12, 2016
**Michelle Sauer**, University of North Dakota, “Gardens, the Rhetoric of Desire, and Lesbian Space in Late Medieval Dream Visions”

**Contemporary Art Installation Program**
2015–2016
**Hugh Livingston**, Livingston Sound, *String Quartet and 22 Intermissions (Please Be Seated)*

2016–present
**Hugh Livingston**, Livingston Sound, *Garden Quartet, Mostly Intermezzos, Some Preludes, No Cadenzas*

**Panels on the Occasion of the 75th Anniversary**
*Landscape into History*
*College Art Association Annual Meeting, Washington, DC*
February 4, 2016
Organized by **John M. Beardsley**, Dumbarton Oaks, and **Jennifer Raab**, Yale University

**Danielle B. Joyner**, Southern Methodist University, **Juliette Calvarin**, Harvard University, and **Gavin Wiens**, Johns Hopkins University, “Rocks and Arts in Medieval Le Puy-en-Velay: The Virgin’s Volcanoes”


**Elizabeth Kindall**, University of St. Thomas, “Painting the ‘Illusory Transformings’ of a Chinese Mountainscape”

**Julia Lum**, Yale University, “Sacred Geographies: Cross-Cultural Landscapes in the Bay of Islands, New Zealand, 1814–1845”

**Peter Hewitt Christensen**, University of Rochester, “Topographic Regimes, Visual Persuasion, and the German Construction of the Ottoman Railway Network”
The documentary *Containment*, directed by Peter Galison and Robb Moss of Harvard University, was screened in collaboration with the Environmental Film Festival in the Nation’s Capital.

*Reframing Landscape History*
Society of Architectural Historians, Pasadena
April 7, 2016
Organized by John Beardsley, Dumbarton Oaks, and Anatole Tchikine, Dumbarton Oaks

Jeremy Foster, Cornell University, “Elaborating Time-Consciousness at the Emscher Park IBA”
Kathleen John-Alder, Rutgers University, “Ecologies of Time and Scale: Contextualizing Ian McHarg’s Landscape Vision”
Mark Eischeid, University of Oregon, “Translation Analysis: An Historiographic Technique”
Mira Engler, Iowa State University, “Intersections of Landscape Design Studies and Consumerist Arts”
Elizabeth Hyde, Kean University, “Reframing Bourbon Landscapes around the History of Plants”
University Collaborations
Fall 2015

*Modern Cities* class, in collaboration with Georgetown University, taught by **Jordan Sand** of Georgetown University, with **Anatole Tchikine, Jeanne Haffner, Christina Milos**, and **David Wooden** of Dumbarton Oaks.

February 24–26, 2016

A three-day symposium “Reisen und Gärten (Travels and Gardens)” at Zentrum für Gartenkunst + Landschaftsarchitektur (CGL), Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany

Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies

Graduate Workshop

*Frontiers in Urban Landscape Research*

November 20, 2015

**Molly Catherine Briggs**, PhD Candidate, Landscape Architecture, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, “Beyond the Path: Assessing the Transporting Capacity of Urban Landscapes with Dynamic Isovist Imaging”

**Dwight Carey**, PhD Candidate, Art History, University of California, Los Angeles, “Planned Authority: The Urban History of French Imperialism in a Senegal River Town, 1659–1810”

**Eyun Jennifer Kim**, PhD Candidate, Built Environment, University of Washington, “History, Narrative, and Recovered Nature in the Cheonggyecheon Restoration (Seoul, South Korea)”


**Abbey Stockstill**, PhD Candidate, History of Art and Architecture, Harvard University, “The Mountains, the Mosque, and the Red City: Locality in Twelfth-Century Marrakech”

**Stephanie M. Strauss**, PhD Candidate, Art History, University of Texas, Austin, “Betwixt and Between the Great Yax Ha’: Maya Kingly Sight across the Usumacinta River”
**Film Screening**
March 23, 2016
*Containment*, directed by Peter Galison and Robb Moss, Harvard University, in collaboration with the Environmental Film Festival in the Nation’s Capital

**Midday Dialogues**
September 29, 2015
**Peder Anker**, New York University, “A History of Environmental Designs”

October 14, 2015

November 3, 2015
**Katrina Jones**, Maryland Port Administration, “Restoring Brown Places into Green Spaces through Community Engagement: The Masonville Story”

November 10, 2015
**Christina Milos**, University of Hannover, “Anticipating Future Urbanization in Nigeria’s Oil Sands Belt”

December 2, 2015
**David Wooden**, District Department of Energy and Environment, **Meredith Unchurch**, District Department of Transportation, and **Rebecca Stack**, Design Green, “Critical Work: Innovative Green Infrastructure Regulations Transforming DC.”

December 8, 2015

January 5, 2016
January 20, 2016
Clark Wilson, Environmental Protection Agency, “Design Matters! (Even at the EPA)”

February 2, 2016
Mariana Mogilevich, Pratt Institute, “Beyond the City: Metropolitan Environments and Urban Identification”

February 24, 2016

February 24, 2016
Kara Schlichting, Queens College, City University of New York, “The Nature of Urban Coastal Resiliency: Twentieth-Century Governance, Environmental Management, and Design”

March 16, 2016
Bruno Carvalho, Princeton University, “Informal by Design: From Amerindian ‘Garden Cities’ to Olympic Urbanism in Brazil”

March 29, 2016
Sheila Crane, University of Virginia, “Inventing Informality in Algiers and Casablanca”

April 5, 2016
Gary Hilderbrand, Reed Hilderbrand LLC / Harvard Graduate School of Design, “Vegetal City”

April 19, 2016

April 26, 2016
Anne Rademacher, New York University, “Producing Green Expertise: Place, Pedagogy, and Sustainable Architecture in Mumbai”
Outreach Activities
April 27, 2016
*Biodiversity from Garden to City*, field trip with Phelps Architecture, Engineering, and Construction High School

May 3, 2016
*Tree Notebooks*, field trip organized through the DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative for seventh- and eighth-graders at Achievement Prep Academy

May 9, 2016
*Tree Notebooks*, field trip organized through the DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative for fourth-graders at Achievement Prep Academy

May 11, 2016
*City of Trees*, field trip organized through the DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative for sixth-graders at McKinley Middle School

May 14, 2016
*Public Park, Private Garden*, field trip with the National Building Museum Teen Council for ninth- to twelfth-graders
At least some participants confessed to a burning urgency to attend this year’s Pre-Columbian Studies fall symposium, “Smoke, Flames, and the Human Body in Mesoamerican Ritual Practice,” held on October 9–10, 2015, and organized by Vera Tiesler and Andrew Scherer. From the earliest times, fire has been a fundamental and transformative element in human culture. The symposium presentations embraced diverse approaches to the multilayered meanings of fire and the body in ancient, historic, and contemporary Mesoamerica. The disciplinary interests represented ranged across archaeology, bioarchaeology, epigraphy, iconography, ethnohistory, and ethnography, and addressed how fire was used in the mundane, daily activities of cooking and in the important rites of purification and communication in which smoking censers facilitated interaction with the world of supernatural beings and deities. The Aztec New Fire Ceremony has long served as a paradigm for thinking about Mesoamerican fire as one of the more renowned expressions of rites that are fundamentally about marking the passage of time and new beginnings. Fire plays a vital role in festivals of agricultural renewal as well as in funerary rituals where the pungent smells of burning wood, charred flesh, and aromatic incense all contribute to a compelling sensory experience. Fire signatures in archaeologically retrieved mortuary assemblages demonstrate a wide range of heat treatments and exposures, and body remnants in the form of bones and ashes served for veneration and public ritual. Suffice to say that the meeting generated “heated” discussion and “fanned the flames” of debate both during and long after the formal sessions! A concluding discussion was skillfully led by
Pre-Columbian Studies senior fellow John Verano, who offered reflections and observations from an Andean perspective, leavened by his own special brand of humor, to round out the weekend’s scholarly exchanges. The meeting once again drew a full house, and Bliss fellowships enabled three undergraduates from Harvard to attend.

Timed to coincide with the symposium, the Pre-Columbian Studies program generated a temporary exhibition, *Stephens & Catherwood Revisited: Maya Ruins and the Passage of Time*, featuring Frederick Catherwood’s illustrations of Maya ruins matched with contemporary photographs of the same sites and perspectives by Professor Emeritus Jay A. Frogel of the Ohio State University. Our Harvard summer intern Hannah Yang played a vital role in researching and mounting the exhibition across the Orientation and Rare Book Galleries and in preparing the accompanying booklet. The
exhibition was generously supported by donations made to the Flora Clancy Fund in honor of Flora’s fellowship (1986–1987) and long-standing affection for Dumbarton Oaks.

As part of the Pre-Columbian Studies contribution to the seventy-fifth anniversary celebrations, Tom Cummins presented a public lecture entitled “A Crack in the Mirror: Desires for Pre-Columbian and American-Made Colonial Art, Then and Now.” He observed that the notable Byzantine and Pre-Columbian works collected by the Blisses encompassed creations of compelling aesthetic appeal fashioned by societies that came to an end within decades of each other. Each culture found its works and artists dispersed, and iconoclastic fervor disavowed what these “classical” traditions had created. Centuries later, their distinct histories intersected in scholarly discourse through the formation of Dumbarton Oaks. Cummins made adroit use of a renowned object in the Pre-Columbian collections—a rare precontact polished obsidian mirror set in a gilded wooden frame. The leaves and flowers carved into the frame reveal the repurposing of the object to serve as a portable altar in the early colonial period, the back bearing the emblem of the Franciscan order in New Spain. In the course of its storied history, the obsidian was shattered into several pieces and its subsequent repair inspired the title for the lecture.

The strikingly designed, revamped style of our Pre-Columbian publications continues to draw much favorable comment in the field thanks to the skilled eye and expertise of Kathy Sparkes, director of publications, and Sara Taylor, managing editor of art and archaeology. The most recent title in the Studies in Pre-Columbian Art and Archaeology monograph series is Holes in the Head: The Art and Archaeology of Trepanation in Ancient Peru by John Verano. Work is proceeding apace on the catalogue of the Central America and Colombian collection at Dumbarton Oaks, building on the successful workshop held on-site in January 2014, followed by another in Panama in January 2015. Productive collaborations have been forged with materials scientists working in the laboratories of the Walters Art Museum and the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian to undertake analytical work on the Dumbarton Oaks gold objects.

A further initiative promoting Dumbarton Oaks’s name in Latin America was the workshop held in Santiago, Chile, on May 17–21, 2016, that addressed the Inca conquest of its southern territories in
the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. “Repensando el Tawantinsuyu desde el Collasuyu” was cosponsored by Dumbarton Oaks, the project CONICYT USA 2013-0012 (Water Management and Agro-hydraulic Systems in Desert Environments), and the Department of Anthropology, Universidad de Chile. The workshop was held in Pirque, a quiet town in the foothills of the Andean Cordillera just south of Santiago, and brought together a group of specialists who have been actively involved in recent Inca field research in the province (suyu) known as Collasuyu that encompasses vast expanses of modern Chile and Argentina. Moving beyond straightforward description and sharing new data, this meeting brought fresh insights to bear on our understanding of the Inca incorporation and administration of the region and its developing state-local dynamics. The invited papers evaluated how we interpret Inca rule by comparing the archaeological and documentary records, proposing new theoretical perspectives and interpretations of Inca imperial expansion, and drawing parallels to other ancient empires.

Scholarly Activities

Annual Symposium

*Smoke, Flames, and the Human Body in Mesoamerican Ritual Practice*

October 9–10, 2015

Organized by Vera Tiesler, Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, and Andrew Scherer, Brown University

Oswaldo Chinchilla, Yale University, “Fire and Sacrifice in Mesoamerican Myths and Ritual”

Markus Eberl, Vanderbilt University, “Divine Fire: Transformation in Highland Mexican Thought and Practices”


Jesper Nielsen and Christophe Helmke, University of Copenhagen, “Where the Sun Came into Being: Rites of Pyrolatry, Transition, and Transformation in Early Classic Teotihuacan”

Andrew Scherer and Stephen Houston, Brown University, “Blood, Fire, Death: Covenants and Crises among the Classic Maya”
Joel Palka, University of Illinois, Chicago, “Where There’s Fire, There’s Smoke: Lacandon Maya Burning Rites, Cremation, and Symbolism”

John F. Chuchiak, Missouri State University, “The Burning and the Burnt: The Transformative Power of Fire, Smoke, and Flames in Conquest and Colonial Maya Ritual, Warfare, and Diplomacy”

Vera Tiesler, Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán, “The Fiery Dead: Igniting Human Bodies and Body Parts in the Maya Northern Lowlands”

William Duncan, East Tennessee State University, and Gabrielle Vail, New College of Florida, “Burning Blood and Bone among the Postclassic Maya: Gender, Complementary Dualism, and the Material Record”

Guilhem Olivier, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, “Relics, Divination, and Regeneration: The Symbolism of Ashes in Mesoamerica”

Ximena Chávez Balderas, Templo Mayor / Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, “Fire, Transformation, and Bone Relics: Cremated Remains at the Great Temple of Tenochtitlan”

Danièle Dehouve, French National Center for Scientific Research, Paris, “The New Fire and the Corporeal Penance: Comparative Perspectives between the Tlapaneecs and the Aztecs”

Workshop
Reensando el Tawantinsuyu desde el Collasuyu
May 17–21, 2016

In collaboration with the project CONICYT USA 2013-0012 (Water Management and Agro-hydraulic Systems in Desert Environments) and the Department of Anthropology, Universidad de Chile, Pirque

Organized by Frances Hayashida, University of New Mexico, Andrés Troncoso, Universidad de Chile, and Diego Salazar, Universidad de Chile

Participants: Félix Acuto, Sonia Alconini, José Berenguer, Victoria Castro, Ian Farrington, Francisco Garrido, Marco Giovannetti, Ana María Lorandi, José Luis Martinez, Axel Nielsen, Tristan Platt, Claudia Rivera, Mauricio Uribe, and Verónica Williams

Public Lecture
December 4, 2015

Thomas Cummins, Harvard University, “A Crack in the Mirror: Desires for Pre-Columbian and American-Made Colonial Art, Then and Now”

Talks
September 21, 2015

Christopher Beekman, University of Colorado, Denver, “Out of Many, One: Collective Governance and its Visual Ramifications in Pre-Columbian Jalisco, Mexico”
November 2, 2015
Takeshi Inomata, University of Arizona, “Ritual and Politics at the Preclassic Maya Center of Ceibal, Guatemala”

December 7, 2015
Erika Brant, University of Virginia, “The Dead Rose from the Ground: Ancestors and Political Authority in a Post-Collapse Andean Society (1000–1450 CE)"

January 25, 2016
Daniela Triadan, University of Arizona, “The Development of Social Inequality at the Preclassic Maya Center of Ceibal, Guatemala”

March 28, 2016
Rebecca Mendelsohn, University at Albany, State University of New York, “The Early Mesoamerican City of Izapa and the Southern Maya Region”

April 18, 2016
Jennifer Saracino, Tulane University, “Shifting Landscape: Depictions of Environmental and Cultural Disruption in the Mapa Uppsala”

Tertulias
July 15, 2015
Maria Florencia Becerra, Instituto de Arqueología, Universidad de Buenos Aires, “Mining and Metallurgy during Inka and Colonial Times in the Extreme Northwest of Argentina”

July 23, 2015
Anastasia Kayluta, Russian Museum of Ethnography, “Discovering the Mysteries of the Oztoticpac Lands Map: History and Content of the Earliest Nahua (Aztec) Register of Properties”

July 27, 2015
Christina Torres-Rouff, University of California, Merced, “Dying Along the Way”
July 30, 2015  
**David Reed**, University of Michigan, “Maya in the Middle: Mortuary Analysis of Late Classic Copán”  

September 24, 2015  

March 17, 2016  
**William Fash**, Harvard University, “Pre-Columbian Art and Archaeology at an Ancient Maya City?: The Past, Present, and Possible Futures of Copán, Honduras” Formal Talk

April 15, 2015  
**Daniela La Chioma Silvestre Villalva**, University of São Paulo, “Depictions of Musicians on Moche Ritual Ceramic Iconography: A Study of the Correlation between Instruments and Power Attributes”

**Exhibitions**  
September 1, 2015–May 9, 2016  
*Stephens & Catherwood Revisited: Maya Ruins and the Passage of Time*  
Orientation and Rare Book Galleries, Dumbarton Oaks
The research library at Dumbarton Oaks continued to grow in all respects in 2015–2016:

- 139 new readers (in addition to the vibrant number of fellows, interns, and summer-school students) were granted access and oriented to the library.
- 54 researchers consulted a variety of collection materials a total of 777 times in the Rare Book Reading Room.
- 42 researchers made 80 visits to the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives (ICFA), consulting 709 boxes of archival and photographic materials.
- 958 interlibrary loan requests were filled for fellows and staff; 341 requests from other libraries were filled.
- 767 images of collection items were supplied to scholars for research and publication.
- 3,305 new books were acquired for the collection, 1,778 journal titles and monographic series continue to be received, and twenty-nine new subscriptions were initiated.
- 2,020 titles, representing 2,793 volumes, were catalogued in the past year.
- 4 new findings aids (for the papers of Margaret Alexander, Edward Eliopoulos, Josephine Harris, and Charles Tauss) were released by ICFA.
- 4 oral history interviews (with Henry Maguire, Sarah Underwood, Christopher Donnan, and Herbert Kessler) were released by ICFA.
The research library continued to reintegrate ICFA, resulting in closer collaboration across all units in the library. The staff of the research library welcomed Alyson Williams as the new reader services librarian, Konstantina Karterouli as the new postdoctoral fellow in Byzantine art history, and Bettina Smith as the new manager of ICFA.

Digitization
With the integration of ICFA, the research library adopted as its top priority the implementation of an online presentation of digitized images from Dumbarton Oaks and related fieldwork projects in the AtoM@DO platform (http://atom.doaks.org). Building on the foundation laid by former staff in ICFA, including Shalimar Fojas White, Anne Marie Viola, Fani Gargova, and Rona Razon, head cataloguer Sandra Parker Provenzano led a team (including Wendy Johnson and Jessica Cebra) that migrated and loaded 5,389 photographs of Byzantine monuments and artwork, as well as indexed an additional 3,888 photographs. In the spring of 2016, staffing of this project grew to include Konstantina Karterouli, and leadership for the project transferred to Bettina Smith.
During the summer of 2015, under the direction of Wendy Johnson, Sita Strother worked as a volunteer on the Garden Archives Project. To the archive they added 264 images of numerous spaces in the Dumbarton Oaks Gardens, including the Urn Terrace, Cherry Hill, Crabapple Hill, Herbaceous Border, Fountain Terrace, Kitchen Gardens, Plum Walk, and Lilac Circle (www.doaks.org/library-archives/garden-archives).

The research library digitized and enhanced the cataloguing for thirty-one additional volumes from the Rare Book Collection, increasing by over forty percent the total number of books from the research library collections digitized in the past four years and bringing the total to seventy-four. The digitized rare book materials can be viewed online at www.doaks.org/resources/digital/rare-books.

Library Exhibits

Rare Book Gallery

*Americana from the Collection*

May–August 2015

The Rare Book Collection houses a small but significant collection of both manuscript and published Americana. The variety and quality of items underscore the eclectic interests of Robert and Mildred Bliss. This exhibit illustrated the early collecting focus of Mildred Bliss before the transfer of the estate to Harvard University and the formation of the Rare Book Collection. Materials exhibited ranged in date from the colonial period through the early twentieth century. Subjects covered included political, literary, social, and garden history. Among the highlights was a rare pamphlet from 1780 on the trial of Major Andre published in Philadelphia, a copy of the 1778 London edition of Mawe’s *Universal Gardener* from George Washington’s library, and a handwritten sonnet and letter from Emily Dickinson, which was accompanied by a book of her poems, *The Single Hound*.

Catalogue House

*Garden Perspectives*

November 20, 2015–present

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the gift of Dumbarton Oaks to Harvard University provided the opportunity to exhibit archival
photographs of the garden, beginning with its early design and development in the 1920s by Beatrix Farrand and Mildred Bliss and continuing through numerous and varied changes over the course of its life. An online exhibit complements a physical installation in the Catalogue House: http://www.doaks.org/75th-anniversary/gallery.

Research Library

Quiescit anima libris: On the Occasion of the 75th Anniversary of the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library

April 2016–present

The exhibit consists of archival documents and photographs related to the evolution of the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library from its beginnings as a private collection in a residence to the present modern research library. In addition to photographs of reading rooms and library stacks in the Main House through the years, the exhibit features letters and reports detailing the establishment of the library’s collections and highlighting major transitions in its history.

Loans to Other Exhibitions

Moche y sus vecinos: Reconstruyendo identidades

Museo de Arte de Lima, Peru
February 19–August 14, 2016

The library provided digital images and associated permission for the exhibition of thirty-two fine line drawings of Moche vessels from the Christopher B. Donnan and Donna McClelland Moche Archive in ICFA.

Important Acquisitions

Byzantine Studies

Giustiniani, Bernardo. De origine urbis Venetiarum. Impressum Venetiis [Venice]: Per Bernardino Benalium, [not before 31 January 1492 or 1493].

An expansive consideration of the origins of Venice and its particular institutions, it includes such diverse topics as Constantine’s move of the imperial capital from Rome to Constantinople, the failure of the Byzantine empire to retain its western territories against invaders
such as the Vandals and Lombards, the career of Mohammed, the Arab conquests, the origins of Greek fire, and the rise of Ottoman power that culminated in the fall of Constantinople. Known to be in only six libraries in the United States, this copy is embellished with hand-painted initials and includes Latin marginalia in a sixteenth-century hand.


Alban Thorer’s Latin translation based on available Greek manuscripts of the influential sixth-century medical encyclopedia *Biblia iatrika dyokaideka* by the Byzantine physician Alexander of Tralles.

**Garden and Landscape Studies**

Trew, Christoph Jacob. *Hortus nitidissimis omnen per annum superbiens floribus, sive, Amoenissimorum florum imagines.* Norimbergae [Nuremberg]: Typis Johannis Josephi Fleischmanni, 1751–1772. A rare complete copy of a volume offering one of the most attractively illustrated records of flower cultivation of the second half of the eighteenth century, with depictions of hyacinths, tulips (over twenty plates), ranunculi, anemones, caryophylli, lilies, auriculas, roses, narcissi, iris, cheiranthi, asters, fritillaries, and crown imperials.


First edition of an important *cinquecento* architectural treatise, offering the first systematic discourse on the practical applications of perspective, envisioned as a complement to the Vitruvius commentary that Barbaro wrote with Palladio.


A French edition of Crescenzi’s *Ruralia comoda* (1307), the most important agricultural treatise of the Middle Ages, complementing three Venetian editions of Crescenzi’s work published in the late fifteenth and sixteenth centuries in the Rare Book Collection.

**Pre-Columbian Studies**


This rare volume offers the best account of the history of the political and spiritual conquests in the region of the Amazon and Marañon during a period of forty-four years, in addition to an interesting compendium of the history of American discoveries since 1491.

*Album of aquarelle drawings of Ecuadorian natives and costumes*, ca. 1850.

Fine original aquarelles by an anonymous artist portraying Ecuadorians (mainly from Quito) in local costumes, performing trades, and assisting celebrations; a considerable portion is dedicated to the native population.

Roxo Mexía y Ocón, Juan. *Arte de la lingua general de los indios del Perú*. Por el doctor Ivan Roxo Mexia y Ocun. Lima: Iorge López de Herrera, 1648.

An important Quechua grammar.

A Spanish and Nahuatl confessional, representing one of the first books printed at the convent in Tlatelolco, on the outskirts of Mexico City.


Large (40 x 29 in.) folded hand-colored map of Ecuador with large insert of the Galápagos Islands. Lists major cities and towns within each province; provinces are color coded.

Spilbergen, Joris van. *Oost ende West-Indische spieghel: waer in beschreven werden de twee laatste navigatien ghedaen inde jaeren 1614, 1615, 1616, 1617, ende 1618/de eene door den vermaerden zee-heldt loris van Spilbergen. Tot Zutphen* [Netherlands]: By Andries Janssz van Aelst, Boeckvercooper, 1621.

A fundamental record of Dutch circumnavigation, military activity, and trade rivalry in the early seventeenth century. The first part of this volume contains the account of Joris van Spilbergen’s circumnavigation, while the later part treats the voyage of Jacob Le Maire. Of the two voyages, that of Le Maire and Schouten is the more significant, as it includes the discovery of a new passage to the Pacific south of the Straits of Magellan. Many of the locations van Spilbergen visited and raided are depicted in the woodcuts. The illustrations include views of the Straits of Magellan, Acapulco, Lima, and Concepción, as well as a map of Tierra del Fuego and the “Straits of Le Maire.”
Although we continued to explore new ways of disseminating scholarly works online, we maintained our commitment to producing high-quality works in print in 2015–2016. Joel Kalvesmaki, the managing editor in Byzantine Studies, and Sara Taylor, the managing editor of art and archaeology, produced a well-rounded roster of books, including two volumes in the Dumbarton Oaks Byzantine Symposia and Colloquia series, one in the Dumbarton Oaks Colloquium on the History of Landscape Architecture series, one in the Studies in Pre-Columbian Art and Archaeology series, two in the ex horto series, and one in Dumbarton Oaks Papers, our Byzantine Studies journal. The Bliss-Tyler Correspondence Project was completed and fully published online by Lain Wilson, the digital humanities fellow, in fall 2015.

Dumbarton Oaks Books and Dumbarton Oaks Papers

*Saints and Sacred Matter: The Cult of Relics in Byzantium and Beyond*, edited by Cynthia Hahn and Holger A. Klein

Enshrined in sumptuous metal, ivory, or stone containers, relics formed an important physical and spiritual bond between heaven and earth, linking humankind to their saintly advocates in heaven. As they were carried in liturgical processions, used in imperial ceremonies, and called upon in legal disputes and crises, relics—and,

*Charvolants* (carriages drawn by kites), 1827 (fig. 66). Cover image from *Letters of a Dead Man*. 
by extension, their precious containers and built shrines—provided a visible link between the living and the venerated dead. *Saints and Sacred Matter* explores the embodied aspects of the divine—physical remains of holy men and women and objects associated with them. Contributors to the volume explore how those remains, or relics, linked the past and present with an imagined future.

*North Africa under Byzantium and Early Islam*, edited by Susan T. Stevens and Jonathan P. Conant

The profound economic and strategic significance of the province of “Africa” made the Maghreb highly contested in the Byzantine period—by the Roman (Byzantine) Empire, Berber kingdoms, and eventually also Muslim Arabs—as each group sought to gain control and exploit the region to its own advantage. Scholars have typically taken the failure of the Byzantine endeavor in Africa as a foregone conclusion. *North Africa under Byzantium and Early Islam* reassesses this pessimistic vision both by examining those elements of Romano-African identity that provided continuity in a period of remarkable transition and by seeking to understand the transformations in African society in the context of the larger post-Roman Mediterranean.
The Medici: Citizens and Masters, edited by Robert Black and John E. Law, published by I Tatti, the Center for Renaissance Studies, and produced by Dumbarton Oaks

The Medici controlled fifteenth-century Florence. Other Italian rulers treated Lorenzo the Magnificent (1449–1492) as an equal. To his close associates, he was “the boss” (“master of the workshop”). But Lorenzo liked to say that he was just another Florentine citizen. Were the Medici like the kings, princes, and despots of contemporary Italy? Or were they just powerful citizens? The Medici: Citizens and Masters offers a novel, comparative approach to answering these questions. It sets Medici rule against princely states such as Milan and Ferrara and asks how much the Medici changed Florence and contrasts their supremacy with earlier Florentine regimes.

Holes in the Head: The Art and Archaeology of Trepanation in Ancient Peru, by John Verano

Trepanation is the oldest surgical procedure known from antiquity, extending back more than five thousand years in Europe and to at least the fifth century BC in the New World. Anthropologists and medical historians have been investigating ancient trepanation since the mid-nineteenth century, but questions remain about its origins, evolution, and the possible motivations for conducting
such a dangerous surgical procedure. Peru is particularly important to these questions, as it boasts more trepanned skulls than the rest of the world combined. This volume presents the results of a long-term research project that examined more than eight hundred trepanned skulls from recent archaeological excavations and from museum collections in Peru, the United States, and Europe. It examines trepanation in ancient Peru from a broad anthropological and historical perspective, focusing on the archaeological context of osteological collections and highlighting the history of discoveries. It explores the origins and spread of the practice throughout the Central Andes, with a focus on trepanation techniques, success rates, and motivations for trepanning. It examines the apparent disappearance of trepanation in the Andes following Spanish conquest, while noting that there are reports of trepanations being performed by healers in highland Peru and Bolivia into the twentieth century.


In 1712, the Kangxi emperor published Imperial Poems on the Mountain Estate for Escaping the Heat (Yuzhi Bishu Shanzhuang Shi) to commemorate his recently completed summer palace. Through his perceptions of thirty-six of its most scenic views, his poems and descriptions present an unusually intimate self-portrait of the emperor at the age of sixty that reflected the pleasures of his life there, as well as his ideals as the ruler of the Qing Empire. Kangxi was closely involved in the production of the book and ordered several of his outstanding court artists—the painter Shen Yu and the engravers Zhu Gui and Mei Yufeng—to produce woodblock prints of the thirty-six views, which set a new standard for topographical illustration. He also ordered Matteo Ripa, an Italian missionary serving as a court artist, to translate these images into the medium of copper-plate engraving, which introduced
this technique to China. Ripa’s hybridized interpretations soon began to circulate in Europe and influenced contemporary aesthetic debates about the nature and virtues of the Chinese garden. This artistic collaboration between a Chinese emperor and a western missionary-artist marked a significant moment in intercultural imagination, production, and transmission during an earlier phase of globalization.

*Letters of a Dead Man*, edited and translated by Linda B. Parshall
In 1826, the prince of Pückler-Muskau embarked on a tour of England, Wales, and Ireland. Although captivated by all things British, his initial objective was to find a wealthy bride. He and his wife Lucie, having expended every resource on a plan to transform their estate into a vast landscape park, agreed to an amicable divorce, freeing him to forge an advantageous alliance that could rescue their project. For over two years, Pückler’s letters home conveyed a vivid, often quirky, and highly entertaining account of his travels. From the metropolis of London, he toured the mines and factories of the Industrial Revolution and visited the grand estates and spectacular art collections maintained by its beneficiaries. He encountered the scourge of rural and urban poverty and found common cause with the oppressed Irish. With his gift for description, Pückler evokes the spectacular landscapes of Wales, the perils of transportation, and the gentle respite of manor houses and country inns. Part memoir, part travelogue and political commentary, part epistolary novel, Pückler’s rhetorical flair and acute observations provoked the German poet Heinrich Heine to characterize him as the “most fashionable of eccentric men—Diogenes on horseback.”

*Cultural Landscape Heritage in Sub-Saharan Africa*, edited by John Beardsley
Sub-Saharan Africa is one of the longest-occupied and least-studied landscapes on earth. While scholarship has been attentive to images of
nature made by the region’s explorers and settlers and to landscapes of the colonial era—public parks and game preserves, botanical gardens, and urban plans—surprisingly little attention has been paid to spaces created by and for Africans themselves, from the precolonial era to the present. This book is a contribution to a small but growing effort to address this oversight. Contributors explore what we know of precolonial and later indigenous-designed landscapes, how these landscapes were understood in the colonial era, and how they are being recuperated today for nation building, identity formation, and cultural affirmation. Contributors engage with the most critical issues in preservation today, from the conflicts between cultural heritage and biodiversity protection to the competition between local and international heritage agendas.

The Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library
The Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library (DOML), published by Harvard University Press, was launched in 2010 and already includes over forty bilingual volumes. Each volume presents original texts in Byzantine Greek, Medieval Latin, and Old English alongside facing-page translations and limited commentary. The books are designed to make the written achievements of medieval and Byzantine culture available to both scholars and general readers in the English-speaking world.

A total of four volumes appeared in print in the 2015–2016 publication seasons, one in Medieval Latin in the fall, and one in Byzantine Greek, Medieval Latin, and Old English in the spring. The Old English Editorial Board met at Dumbarton Oaks in the fall, and the Medieval Latin Editorial Board met in the spring. A third meeting was held with scholars of Medieval Iberian languages to discuss plans for launching a Medieval Romance branch of DOML. Tyler Fellows David Ungvary and Nathanael Aschenbrenner worked part-time
throughout the academic year on Latin and Greek projects, respectively. In February, a three-person team of Old English translators was able to spend a week collaborating in the library. General editor Jan M. Ziolkowski and assistant managing editor Raquel Begleiter represented DOML at the July International Medieval Congress in Leeds, as well as at the May International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo.


*Lives and Miracles: Gregory of Tours*, edited and translated by Giselle de Nie

*Holy Men of Mount Athos*, edited and translated by Richard P. H. Greenfield and Alice-Mary Talbot

*On Plato’s Timaeus: Calcidius*, edited and translated by John Magee

*Old English Psalms*, edited and translated by Patrick P. O’Neill

Conferences and meetings

International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, July 6–9, 2015

Old English Editorial Board Meeting, November 6, 2015

Medieval Latin Editorial Board Meeting, March 11, 2016

51st International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, May 12–15, 2016
Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library Residencies
Invited for short stays, or residencies, a small number of translator teams are offered the opportunity to take advantage of on-campus resources (both physical and digital). Preference is given to projects nearing completion, when concentrated, intensive work is most needed, and to translators who would not otherwise be able to meet in person. Johanna Kramer, Robin Norris, and Hugh Magennis held residencies to work on *Anonymous Old English Saints’ Lives* from February 15–19, 2016.

Editorial Boards 2015–2016

**Byzantine Greek series**
Alice Mary Talbot, editor
Advisory board: Albrecht Berger, Wolfram Brandes, Elizabeth Fisher, Clive Foss, John Haldon, Robert Jordan, Antony Littlewood, Margaret Mullett, Jan Olof Rosenqvist, Jonathan Shepard, Denis Sullivan, and John Wortley

**Medieval Latin series**
Danuta Shanzer, editor
Editorial board: Robert G. Babcock, Julia Barrow, B. Gregory Hays, David Townsend, Winthrop Wetherbee, Michael Winterbottom, and Roger Wright
Advisory board: Walter Berschin, Peter Dronke, Ralph Hexter, Mayke de Jong, José Martínez Gázquez, Kurt Smolak, Francesco Stella, and Jean-Yves Tilliette

**Old English series**
Daniel Donoghue, editor
Editorial board: Peter Baker, Robert D. Fulk, Malcolm Godden, Antonette diPaolo Healey, Susan Irvine, Christopher A. Jones, Katherine O’Brien O’Keeffe, Andy Orchard, and Elizabeth Tyler
Advisory board: Rolf Bremmer, Roberta Frank, Simon Keynes, Patrizia Lendinara, and Donald Scragg
Digital Publishing

The Bliss-Tyler Correspondence

Mildred Barnes and Robert Woods Bliss, the founders of Dumbarton Oaks, maintained an active correspondence between 1902 and 1953 with their close friend and art adviser Royall Tyler and his wife Elisina. The Bliss-Tyler Correspondence, our first born-digital publication, presents approximately one thousand transcribed letters, postcards, and telegrams. Extensive notes and annotations identify key individuals, dealers, places, publications, and artworks. Seven introductions by Robert Nelson and James Carder provide historical context, and an additional essay by Noah Delwiche, a former intern from Harvard University, presents original research, undertaken at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland, into Tyler’s service in military intelligence during the First World War.

Many of the transcribed letters document the formation of the Blisses’ collection of Byzantine, Pre-Columbian, Asian, Islamic, and European art. They also discuss contemporary history, literature and poetry, music, politics, and expatriate life. Various friends and acquaintances, including Bernard Berenson and Edith Wharton, are referenced throughout the correspondence, as are important world events, such as the First and Second World Wars.

Special Content for the Anniversary Year

To celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of Dumbarton Oaks, we coordinated with other departments to develop and present special online content. James Carder and his summer interns composed seventy-five blog posts to illuminate the early history of Dumbarton Oaks. Major sections include the origins of the studies programs, music, the growth of the museum collections, and biographies of figures who guided the early development of the research institution. The posts also incorporate quotations from interviews conducted as part of the Oral History Project, as well as hundreds of archival images of people, events, and spaces. The three directors of study, with the input of former fellows and staff members, compiled lists of influential books and articles produced with institutional support. These lists were consolidated and presented online along with information about the authors and a brief narrative of Dumbarton Oaks’s evolving support for scholarship. Finally, to accompany an exhibit
in the Catalogue House, Gail Griffin and Linda Lott selected before and after images from seven garden rooms for an online feature. Gigi Kisela, a 2015 summer intern from Harvard University, took new photographs of the spaces. The interactive exhibit reveals striking continuities and changes in the gardens since Mildred Barnes Bliss began working with Beatrix Farrand in the 1920s.

Ongoing Projects
In addition to ongoing work with the online catalogues of Byzantine coins and seals, there are two major digital humanities projects in development. The first is an online catalogue raisonné of Byzantine and early Islamic furnishing textiles. The catalogue will include entries alongside essays from the spring 2015 conference on “liminal fabric,” and will be the second of our major born-digital publications. The second is an annotated bibliography of resources related to the
Byzantine liturgy. This resource, developed in collaboration with Daniel Galadza at the University of Vienna and the “Daily Life and Religion: Byzantine Prayer Books as Sources for Social History” project directed by Claudia Rapp, aims to present and explain the main terms, themes, and subjects of the Byzantine liturgy to an audience of both specialists and nonspecialists.
2015–2016 was a busy and memorable year for the museum. The majority of activities and events focused on the seventy-fifth anniversary of our institution. Through a series of nine short special exhibitions, the museum aimed to celebrate, commemorate, and open up future directions for exploring and renewing interest in the collections bequeathed by Mildred and Roberts Woods Bliss in 1940. Realizing these ambitious projects required all hands on deck and a great spirit of teamwork. The collections’ staff at the heart of the museum’s operation gave generously of their intelligence, energy, and dedication.

**Exhibitions and Events**

*Drink and Prosper*

Special Exhibition Gallery, April–August 2015

“Drink and Prosper” reads the Greek inscription on the first vessel in this exhibition. The experience of drinking can involve pleasure or pain and reflect tradition or innovation, but it always fosters creativity in the decorative arts. The exhibited objects reflect social standing, wealth, and rank, as well as local customs, belief systems, and traditions. By placing the vessels in a single row in the Special Exhibition Gallery, the exhibition juxtaposed similar and strikingly different shapes and highlighted commonalities and variations in drinking traditions across the many centuries and cultures represented in the three collections of the Dumbarton Oaks Museum.
The exhibitions on display between September 2015 and May 2016 centered on modes of viewing and understanding artifacts with the aim of engaging visitors with the most fundamental questions pursued by scholars and the general public and activating different methods of studying and appreciating the works in our collections. Arranged in sequences of nine themed consecutive rotations over the course of nine months, the works on display reflected the significance of the historical anniversary year, as well as the ongoing assessment of Mildred and Robert Woods Bliss’s passion and appreciation for collecting. The objects selected exemplified the interrelated methods of seeing, examining, and thinking about objects, from the most major, familiar works to lesser known art in the collection. All objects were integral to the museum’s core mission of collecting, researching, and

75 Years/75 Objects
Special Exhibition Gallery, September 2015–May 2016
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interpreting. Concerned with the production, use, and aesthetics of material culture, the displays invited thoughts about the roles of museums, curators, and scholars, who are constantly challenged to reread and reinterpret the collections. The museum commissioned an impactful series of stop-motion videos of five selected objects to reveal the various “inner core” or mechanical operations. The videos were displayed alongside the objects in the final installment of the anniversary exhibition, “Revealing.”

September 2015 | Researching
October 2015 | Reconstructing
November 2015 | Collecting
December 2015 | Reinterpreting
January 2016 | Conserving
February 2016 | Reuniting
March 2016 | Pondering
April 2016 | Questioning
May 2016 | Revealing

Clothing for the Afterlife
Textile Gallery, October 2015–May 2016
Textiles, more than gold and precious stones, marked a person’s social status in the ancient Andes. Elegant clothing assumed further significance at the time of burial, when family and followers dressed the deceased for the afterlife. The sumptuous attire of the ancient Andeans and other selected pieces in this exhibit offered a glimpse into the elite’s lifestyles and their perceptions of the afterlife.

Porphyry: The Imperial Stone
Bliss Gallery, January–May 2016
Roman and Byzantine emperors employed purple as royal color, and the stone porphyry became highly valued and extensively used for imperial monuments. Later, in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, the rulers of the Norman kingdom in Sicily appropriated this Byzantine tradition of using porphyry sculptures and employed it to affirm the Normans’ imperial and dynastic aspirations. As collectors, Mildred and Robert Woods Bliss were interested not only in
Byzantine art but also in cultures inspired by the Byzantines. This exhibition of porphyry sculpture, ranging from the late Roman period to the Norman Kingdom, attests to this interest.

*From Consul to Emperor: The Origins of the Loros*

Byzantine Gallery, January–May 2016

One of the most distinctive elements of imperial regalia was the *loros*, a jeweled, ornamented scarf-like cloth that was wrapped over the tunic around the emperor’s body. This exhibit traced the development of the *loros* in a selection of coins and seals from the fourth through the fourteenth century.

**Research and Other Projects**

Between September and May 2016, the Dumbarton Oaks Archives published seventy-five anniversary blog posts about people, places, programs, events, acquisitions, publications, and music associated
with Dumbarton Oaks between 1940 and 2015. The archives also contributed nine pieces for the electronic newsletter 75 Years Ago this Month (http://www.doaks.org/library-archives/dumbarton-oaks-archives/from-the-archives/dumbarton-oaks-celebrates-its-75th-anniversary) and continued to conduct, transcribe, and publish interviews for the Dumbarton Oaks Oral History Project (http://www.doaks.org/library-archives/dumbarton-oaks-archives/oral-history-project). Nineteen interviews were added, bringing the total number of published interviews to 122. Finally, the Bliss Album of Garden Photographs, a collection of nearly two hundred black-and-white photographs taken in the Dumbarton Oaks Gardens between 1929 and 1932, was added to the online resources.

Our efforts to digitize and disseminate have grown exponentially with the online publication of the Byzantine lead seals. A new project, the digitization and online cataloguing of the Byzantine coins also began this year, with the goal of providing free access to high-resolution images of our comprehensive holdings through our website in the years to come (the launch of the coins online catalogue is planned for fall 2016).

Scholarly Activities

Museum Conference

Private Collecting and Public Display: Art Museums in the Nation’s Capital in the Early Twentieth Century

April 8–9, 2016

Organized by the Lamar Dodd School of Art, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, University of Georgia, and Dumbarton Oaks Museum; cofunded by the Wilson Center for the Humanities and Arts, University of Georgia, and the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection

The conference explored the aesthetic, philosophical, and ideological sources that shaped art collecting in early twentieth-century America, focusing on the Phillips Collection (1921), Freer Gallery (1923), Textile Museum (1925), Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection (1940), National Gallery of Art (1941), and Hillwood Estate, Museum, and Gardens (1973) in Washington, DC. The founders of these
collections advanced distinct notions of cultural identity by collecting and displaying American and European art that lay outside the general canon of early twentieth-century art collecting. The papers presented contextualized the individual foundations and positioned them within the broader history of related American institutions. Above all, the intention was to focus on the modernist notion of art collecting as a form of self-expression, a visual rendition of a collector’s worldviews, and a specific understanding of the course of history.
“What’s Mine is Yours: Private Collectors and Public Patronage in the United States, 1870 – 1950”

public lecture
April 8, 2016
Inge Reist, Frick Collection

Conference Papers

Asen Kirin, University of Georgia, “The Transfiguration of Everyday Life: Marjorie Merriweather Post and Her Collection of Art”

Julian Raby, The Freer and Sackler Galleries, “Mr. Freer’s ‘Points of Contact’: Past, Present, and Future


Susan Behrends Frank, The Phillips Collection, “Duncan Phillips and the Phillips Collection: An Intimate Museum as an Experiment Station for Modernism”

Magene Daniels, The National Gallery of Art, “For All the People of the United States: Andrew Mellon and the National Gallery of Art”


Loans


**Acquisitions and Gifts**

**Acquired on May 22, 2015**

Follis of Justinian I; Kyzikos (BZC.2015.004)

Two-nummi bronze coin; Revolt of the Heraclii (BZC.2015.005)

Third Siliqua of Heraclius with Heraclius Constantine. Carthage (BZC.2015.006)

Tetarteron of Cyprus. Richard (Crusaders) (BZC.2015.007)

Islamic. Gigliato of Aydin. Baha’ al-Din Ghazi Umur I Beg (BZC.2015.008)

**Acquired on June 29, 2015**

Solidus of Justinian I. Rome (BZC.2015.009)

Silver coin of Justin II. Carthage (BZC.2015.010)

Solidus of Maurice. Carthage (BZC.2015.011)

Theodosius, son of Maurice (BZC.2015.011)

Theodosius, son of Maurice (BZC.2015.013)

Solidus of Heraclius. Constantinople (BZC.2015.014)

Hexagram of Heraclius. Constantinople (BZC.2015.014)

Solidus of Heraclius. Carthage (BZC.2015.016)

Solidus of Constans II. Carthage (BZC.2015.017)

Constantine II and Constantine IV? (BZC.2015.018)

Constantine II and Constantine IV? (BZC.2015.019)
Gold necklace with gold square phylactery with repoussé cross (BZ.2015.028)

Hyperpyron of Michael VIII (BZC.2015.020)
Hyperpyron of Andronicus II (BZC.2015.021)
Leo I, AR tram (BZC.2015.022)

Purchased from Susanne K. Bennet, Washington, DC, on July 1, 2015
Gold necklace with round pendant with eight-pointed star in globules (BZ.2015.023)
Necklace with alternating gold and lapis cylindrical beads (BZ.2015.024)
Gold necklace with round pendant with grid of globules and spiralled-wire filligree (BZ.2015.025)
Gold necklace with cross pendant and two capsae (BZ.2015.026)
Gold chain with composite pendant (BZ.2015.027)
Gold necklace with gold square phylactery with repoussé cross (BZ.2015.028)
Gold chain mesh necklace with circular clasp with small cabochon and pendant emeralds and sapphires (BZ.2015.029)
Necklace (bracelet?) with chain of globule-encrusted links and round clasp with six-pointed figure (BZ.2015.030)
Gold chain with small diamond-shaped clasp with dark inset stone (BZ.2015.031)
Gold chain with simple hook clasp (BZ.2015.032)
Gold chain with simple hook clasp (BZ.2015.033)
Gold chain with simple hook clasp (ring closure) (BZ.2015.034)
Gold chain with simple hook clasp (s-hook) (BZ.2015.035)
Gold champlève enamel pendant with Christ and two emperors (BZ.2015.036)
Small pendant with three “inverted vases” attached to small gold ball (BZ.2015.037)
Pair of earrings in the form of discs surrounded by gold beads (BZ.2015.038)
Pair of hoop earrings, hoops decorated with small gold balls (BZ.2015.039)
Pair of hoop earrings, hoops decorated with small gold balls (BZ.2015.040)
Pair of gold hoop earrings decorated with three chains terminated by a pearl (BZ.2015.041)
Small bracelet (large earring?) With hinged closure with four beads (BZ.2015.042)

Acquired July 24, 2015
Justinian II (1st), fractional siliqua, uncertain western mint (BZC.2015.043)
Justinian II (1st), fractional siliqua, uncertain western mint (BZC.2015.044)

Purchased February 3, 2016
Andronicus II + Michael IX, Hyperpyron, Thessalonica (BZC.2015.045)
Square commercial weight, 3 oz. (80.16 gr.), 6th century (BZ.2015.046)

Acquired March 3, 2016
Lead semissis weight, Leo I, 457-474, 2.18 gr., Constantinople mint (BZ.2015.048)
Byzantine gold solidus, Heraclius, 626-627, 4.47 gr., Carthage mint (BZC.2015.049)

Byzantine gold solidus, Constantine IV, with Heraclius and Tiberius, 679-680, 4.29 gr., Carthage mint (BZC.2015.050)

Byzantine bronze trachy, Manuel Comnenus Ducas, 1230-1237, 1.82 gr., Thessalonica mint (BZC.2015.051)

Byzantine bronze trachy, John Comnenus Ducas, 1237-1242, 1.10 gr., Thessalonica mint (BZC.2015.052)

Acquired March 4, 2016

Bronze half-follis, Anastasius I, 498-507, 2.32 gr., Constantinople mint (BZC.2015.053)

Bronze half-follis, Anastasius I, 498-507, 7.67 gr., Antioch mint (BZC.2015.054)

Bronze penta, Justin I, 522-527, 2.14 gr., Nicomedia mint (BZC.2015.055)

Bronze follis, Justin I, 522-527, 17.08 gr., Antioch mint (BZC.2015.056)

Bronze follis, Justin I, 522-527, 13.97 gr., Antioch mint (BZC.2015.057)

Bronze deka, Justin I, 522-527, 5.02 gr., Antioch mint (BZC.2015.058)

Docents Program

The vibrant and dedicated corps of museum volunteers are an integral and vital part of our mission to serve the larger public. As in past years, the docents donated their time and talent for three hours each week. The visitor service assistants welcomed visitors to the museum, answered general questions, and provided information about the special exhibitions, museum facilities, and gardens. Docents continued to provide tours of the museum’s collections, the garden, and the historic buildings on the Dumbarton Oaks campus. Four new volunteers were recruited and trained, thereby doubling the number of visitor service assistants in 2015–2016.
Over the years, the Arbor Terrace above the Kitchen Garden has undergone many changes, from Beatrix Farrand’s 1920s design as an herb garden to Ruth Havey’s 1950s design for a stone terrace, central pool, and pot garden to Andy Cao’s 2012–2013 wire and crystal Cloud Terrace. Each of these gardens had its constraints: the herb garden was difficult to maintain, the Havey garden was never fully realized, and the Cao garden was a temporary installation. Taking elements from each design, the garden staff has reintroduced the herbs of Farrand’s design in pots placed within the Havey stone terrace that Cao chose as the focal point of his installation. This spring, to accompany the Garden and Landscape Studies symposium, Landscape and the Academy, we displayed under the arbor drawings of medicinal plants from Dioscorides’ De Materia Medica, also grown within pots on the terrace. On the arbor’s northern wall, we included Farrand’s 1924 drawing for the Marsh Botanic Garden at Yale University, which is based on the geometric pattern of the medicinal garden at Padua.

For our celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary, we collaborated with Linda Lott and the Rare Book Collection to create an exhibit in the Catalogue House of historic images paired with contemporary images taken from approximately the same perspective. As we chose the views, we realized how much and yet how little the gardens have changed over the years, and we gained insight into changes that we could make to bring them closer to their earlier intent. For example, comparing images of the Herbaceous Border, we were able to see and restore the original placement of river stones along the front of the borders. Additional insights into the garden are gained through the Dumbarton Oaks website’s photographic blog, updated daily by
garden staff member Luis Marmol, and visited by over one-quarter of a million people since its inception in spring 2010. Not only does the blog allow virtual access to the gardens it also serves as a record of bloom times and garden changes for our archives.

Throughout the gardens are concrete pots and birdbaths acquired in the 1930s from Maine photographer and potter Eric Soderholtz. (Farrand also commissioned him to produce similar pieces for her garden at Reef Point in Bar Harbor, Maine.) For the new design of Arbor Terrace, docent Joan Benziger donated the funds for and collaborated with us to choose six reproduction Soderholtz pots, including four planters reproduced from the pots that flanked the main pathway of Reef Point, made by Lunaform Pottery of Maine.

Tyler fellow Deirdre designed and planted, under the direction of garden staff, a new pollinator garden in the Dumbarton Oaks bio-retention swale adjacent to the staff parking lot. Most of the species chosen are trees, plants, and shrubs native to the Washington, DC,
area and were selected for their attractiveness to pollinator species and their ability to survive the conditions and soil of the swale. The swale also contains a small grove of *Chamaecyparis* that complements the aesthetics of the larger grove of cedars to the south. Another area of the garden to be enriched with a mixture of conifers and native perennials is the upper and lower terraces of the library. For the formal geometry of the terraces’ planters, the garden staff chose native species to soften the spaces and to provide transitions to the native woodland beyond.

In the fall of 2015, Lee and Juliet Folger, through the Lee and Juliet Folger Fund, suggested and supported the addition of railings to increase accessibility and safety in the gardens. Francis Flaherty of Flaherty Ironworks constructed twelve railings in the hilliest parts of the gardens. Numerous visitors have written and called to express their appreciation for this beautiful addition to the garden.

This year, Francis Flaherty also restored a long-missing garden element. Retired garden foreman Larry Johnson told us years ago of a goose weather vane made of copper that had been mounted on the
shed in the Cutting Garden when he began in the 1960s. Although we were able to find a drawing of the goose in Farrand’s files, we were unsure of its scale until last year, when we found a metal letter S attached to a rod in the greenhouse basement. Realizing that we had found the vane’s south, we could thus determine the scale of the goose weather vane.

Our garden files—ranging from plant lists, nursery orders, and project plans to pesticide records, equipment purchases, and utility drawings—are as varied as the garden’s past. To preserve this working history, we began the process of consolidating and archiving the files of previous garden staff and advisors. Now easily accessible are notes from Mildred Bliss regarding plant purchases, the history of bulb and chrysanthemum orders, and yearly plans for the Herbaceous Border and Rose Garden. Once we have organized the paper files, we hope to scan them for incorporation into institutional archives and a digital organizational system.
Friends of Music

With the 2015–2016 concert series, the Friends of Music, which was established in 1946, entered its seventieth anniversary year. The season opened with The Knights, the brilliant orchestral collective that made its impressive Washington, DC, debut at Dumbarton Oaks in 2014. Reconfigured as an eleven-piece chamber group, the ensemble returned with a carefully crafted, marvelously satisfying program from the tumultuous but highly creative times surrounding World War I. *Music from the Great War Era* included works by Maurice Ravel, Ernest Bloch, Anton Webern, Karlheinz Stockhausen, Sergei Prokofiev, and Igor Stravinsky. The *Washington Post* praised the entire evening’s music-making, characterizing the performance of Ravel’s Piano Trio as “a delicate, beautifully drawn account of the work, full of shifting light and elusive colors and with a sense of improvisatory freedom.”

Exploring the close connections between traditional classical and contemporary music, the professional vocal ensemble Third Practice made its Dumbarton Oaks debut with works from the seventeenth, eighteenth, and twenty-first centuries: the exquisite *Musikalische Exequien* by Heinrich Schütz; the motet *Komm, Jesu, Komm* by Johann Sebastian Bach; and *the little match girl passion*, the heartrending composition by David Lang. According to The *Washington Post*, “the entire evening proved a winner, the singers sustaining vocal energy, unfailing technique and expressive nuances throughout three vastly different works.”

The period instrument ensemble Musica Pacifica, with guest violinist and acclaimed Cape Breton fiddler David Greenberg, displayed dazzling virtuosity and warm expressiveness in the season’s holiday offering, *Frost and Fire: A Scottish Christmas Celebration*. Greenberg skillfully curated the program, juxtaposing traditional Scottish Gaelic tunes with pieces by Henry Purcell, Arcangelo Corelli, James
Oswald, and William McGibbon. His uncanny ability to shift from baroque performance style to Cape Breton-style fiddling without compromising the authenticity of either illustrated the historical connection between the two forms and infused the ensemble’s playing with energy and freshness.

Over the past quarter century, the American pianist Christopher Taylor has become a distinguished, if sometimes controversial, artist on the concert stage, but it was not until this season that he made his Dumbarton Oaks recital debut. The multiple award-winning Taylor chose to display his prodigious musical and technical gifts by interpreting a French Suite by Johann Sebastian Bach, an early sonata by Johannes Brahms, and the rarely performed Twelve Études, op. 8, by Alexander Scriabin.

The powerful artistic chemistry that informs the Horszowski Trio’s music was palpable in virtually every note. The ensemble’s program opened with Ludwig van Beethoven’s Trio in E-flat major, op. 70, no. 2, and concluded with Robert Schumann’s Trio no. 1 in D minor, op. 63. Linking those two works, the trio of violin, cello, and piano offered the deeply affecting For Daniel, by the American composer Joan Tower and dedicated to her nephew who died in 2003.
The New Yorker has dubbed the Dover Quartet “the young American string quartet of the moment,” and the Strad lauded the ensemble’s “exceptional interpretive maturity, tonal refinement and taut ensemble.” Unsurprisingly, the quartet’s spring concert had been eagerly anticipated, and the Dover did not disappoint. The ensemble’s deep musicality and concentration, together with a flawless technique, were consistently evident in its performance of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s “Hunt” Quartet, Dmitri Shostakovich’s Quartet no. 3, and Caroline Shaw’s Plan & Elevation (The Grounds of Dumbarton Oaks). The audience responded with a heartfelt and deserved standing ovation.

The grand finale of the season was the appearance by the Venice Baroque Orchestra. The period instrument ensemble, conducted from the harpsichord by Andrea Marcon, focused predominantly on works by Antonio Vivaldi, but flavored the program with a taste of music by Arcangelo Corelli, George Frideric Handel, and Johann Sebastian Bach. The Washington Post enthused, “. . . from the opening notes of [Vivaldi’s] Concerto in G minor, RV 577, the 18-member ensemble . . . found almost limitless worlds of drama and color to explore . . . The most spectacular playing of the evening came in the arrangement of two works by one of the group’s recorder players. Playing a soprano recorder . . . Fusek turned in a virtuosic tour de force, soulful in its central Largo movement and almost impossibly agile in the closing Giga, which seemed to approach the velocity and weightlessness of light.”

Again this season, the Friends of Music series continued to increase its visibility in the community through broadcasts of selected concerts by the classical music radio station WETA. In 2015–2016, WETA recorded performances by The Knights, Christopher Taylor, and the Dover Quartet for the weekly program, “Front Row Washington.”

**Performances**

- The Knights | October 4–5, 2015
- Third Practice | November 15–16, 2015
- Musica Pacifica with David Greenberg | December 6–7, 2015
- Christopher Taylor | January 10–11, 2016
- Horszowski Trio | January 31–February 1, 2016
- Dover Quartet | March 6–7, 2016
- Venice Baroque Orchestra | April 10–11, 2016
Facilities, Finance, Human Resources, and Information Technology

Facilities
The facilities department is responsible for plant operations and maintenance of building systems, utilities, housekeeping, accommodations, special events, refectory operations, internal mail service, capital planning, and project management functions in a campus with fourteen buildings, 210,000 gross square feet (GSF), and 16¾ acres. Department team members consist of engineers, building assistants, and refectory staff, coupled with trusted service contractors for major building systems and highly skilled construction staff for capital projects.

The engineering team continued to operate, routinely maintain, repair, and replace all building systems, totaling over twelve hundred pieces of equipment assets and building envelope systems. In 2015–2016, we continued to consolidate service contracts and revised the existing contracts to better serve our needs.

The building assistance team members provided housekeeping and custodial duties for all buildings, special event setup and breakdown for the special events, and internal and external mail services for the Dumbarton Oaks community.
The refectory staff continued to provide lunches five days a week, fifty weeks a year for the staff, fellows, readers, and other members of the community at Dumbarton Oaks. They have also been instrumental in preparing the food for small, high-end special events in the refectory, director’s residence, and orangery.

The 2015–2016 year has been very busy, with completion of several projects and the design and planning of upcoming ones:

- We completed the design of the Pool Loggia and Terrace project and started its construction phase.
- The Main House Phase Two project, which includes several gallery relighting and finishes upgrades, has been completed. Construction is slated to start in early summer.
- The Dumbarton Oaks Condo has been renovated and now is a two-bedroom unit with new finishes.
- The storm water master plan for the gardens has been completed, and we are getting ready to start the design phase.
- A feasibility study for the La Quercia building has been completed.

We have made significant improvements in our green initiative programs, which have yielded significant savings. We have replaced our cleaning products with green-seal-approved products; replaced bottled water service with high-efficiency filtered water dispensers; and replaced disposable, single-use coffee pod machines with greener technology that uses touch screens and grinds coffee in bulk. We have been purchasing electricity produced with 100 percent wind power the last three years. This translated to about 12,783,783 kilowatt hours produced at 100 percent green energy, eliminating 8,815 metric tons of carbon dioxide that would have been otherwise emitted, an environmental benefit equivalent to taking 1,856 cars off the road for one year or not consuming 991,906 gallons of gasoline. We have recently extended our contract to continue to use 100 percent wind power for the next three years. We also revised our natural gas contract purchase to include 100 percent carbon offset. Based on our average consumption, this change will eliminate 1,439 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions, an environmental benefit equivalent to taking almost 303 cars off the road for one year or not consuming 161,942 gallons of gasoline. These changes will not only make Dumbarton Oaks 100 percent carbon-footprint-free in utility consumption but will
also bring an estimated savings of $43,000 per year for electricity and $36,000 per year for natural gas.

The facilities department is continually looking for ways and means to increase the quality of service while reducing or containing costs in the areas of special events, accommodations, housekeeping, and maintenance of the Dumbarton Oaks campus.

Finance
The finance department forms a small team of individuals who are dedicated to serving the Dumbarton Oaks community. We value providing timely and accurate information to various departments within Dumbarton Oaks, as well as to Harvard University. Our responsibilities range from managing cash inflow and outflow to ensuring the assets of Dumbarton Oaks are safeguarded at all times. The finance department works with the department heads in budget and forecast preparation; we monitor various budgets and make sure they align with expenses. We report numbers to Dumbarton Oaks managers and Harvard University. We prepare financial statements and review flux analysis, reaching out to departments when needed. We oversee the garden gates during the summer months, ensuring that the reliable and customer-friendly gate attendants are using the cash collection system and providing assistance to visitors coming to enjoy our gardens. We are working to tag our inventory, with the assistance of the information technology department. One of our key responsibilities is adhering to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and documenting internal controls to ensure proper checks and balances are in place in all aspects of accounting, including cash handling. We continue to strive to make day-to-day operations more efficient and effective while keeping strong internal controls in place for compliance with our financial and tax regulations.

Human Resources
The human resources department continues to operate on the principle of “success through people” and is committed to continuous improvement. Key initiatives of the past year include the creation of a Human Resources intranet portal to make readily available a wide variety of tools and information that can help staff members in their
day-to-day activities and offer greater transparency about various policies and procedures; a streamlined onboarding and offboarding process; a new lactation room in accordance with the Protecting Pregnant Workers Fairness Act; and more training opportunities. In addition to continuing to issue the biannual human resources newsletter introduced in 2014, the department has also established open office hours every week to further promote an open-door policy and ongoing communication with staff.

Dumbarton Oaks welcomed several new staff members in the 2016 fiscal year. At two employee orientations—one on April 17, 2015, and another on February 2, 2016—human resources manager Pallavi Jain and information technology manager Charlotte Johnson introduced new arrivals to institutional policies, procedures, benefits, digital platforms, and other resources. At two staff coffees—one on January 5, 2016, and another on April 4, 2016—the Dumbarton Oaks community welcomed Michael Maas (director of Byzantine Studies), Bryan Anderson (building assistant), Emily Jacobs (manager of academic programs), Joni Joseph (museum collections manager and
Facilities, Finance, Human Resources, and Information Technology

Assistant Registrar), Alyson Williams (Reader Services Librarian), Dina Hammadi (Staff Accountant), Konstantina Karterouli (Postdoctoral Fellow in Byzantine Art History), and Bettina Smith (ICFA Manager). Two staff members transitioned into new roles: Raquel Begleiter as Assistant Managing Editor of the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library, and Anatole Tchikine as Assistant Director of Garden and Landscape Studies. Furthermore, the January date marked the retirement of Christopher Franklin, who served as Director of Security from 2009 to the beginning of this year.

A number of professional training and development sessions have taken place, often in collaboration with other departments, to support staff in enhancing their job knowledge and skills. Training sessions included management, safety, IT training, and Title IX training.

Information Technology

Dumbarton Oaks Information Technology (DOIT) is responsible for strategic planning and overseeing the direction of IT infrastructure, resources, and services. We serve the Dumbarton Oaks community through collaboration and innovative and advanced technology solutions.

DOIT’s mission is to advance the institution’s strategic goals, foster innovation, enable scholarly endeavors, and deliver the highest quality service. The department concluded a notable second year filled with many behind-the-scenes changes, projects, and initiatives. Our key accomplishments centered around data security, server infrastructure upgrade, and data storage. These major achievements and milestones allowed DOIT to focus more on aligning IT to support and improve business processes. In addition, two key new members joined DOIT: database/CMS developer Prathmesh Mengane and web designer Michael Sohn. The relocation of these two positions was part of an effort to centralize IT services and to provide relief to a department currently managing IT application and vendors on their own. The goal of this initiative was to consolidate functional expertise to increase efficiency and to provide consistent quality of support across the institution.

The major focus of this year was to strengthen the core information technology infrastructure. As part of our strategy, we consolidated and virtualized our data center servers, upgraded our network
gateway, and enhanced our backup solution. We transitioned from our 2010 Microsoft Exchange server to a cloud-based e-mail and calendar system in Office 365. We also successfully implemented information security risk management, incident management, and monitoring.

Key Accomplishments
Enhanced and Upgraded IT Core Infrastructure
DOIT strives for efficiency in technology, and our server virtualization accomplished that goal this fiscal year. All of our existing hardware had been at the end of its life and maintenance contracts and some of the equipment was failing completely. Therefore, it was more economical for DOIT to deploy a server virtualization infrastructure. The virtual infrastructure consolidated the physical servers, significantly reducing costs, increasing flexibility and services, and maximizing the use of server resources. Virtualization is now our default platform for server infrastructure; DOIT has a three-year license agreement with VMWare. Moreover, the team has removed and replaced an end-of-life analogue with digital voice gateway in order to reduce potential loss of availability to our analogue phone systems.

Disaster Recovery and Backup Planning
DOIT completed an initial provisioning of a secondary data center at our 1700 Wisconsin Avenue building. This completed phase one of Dumbarton Oaks’s disaster recovery and business continuance plan. The new data center allows for the relocation of storage and servers and will be a suitable location for expanded or redundant services as the institution moves forward.

Office 365 Exchange Migration
In an effort to provide and improve service, enhance efficiency, and reduce hardware and maintenance costs, our e-mail accounts were migrated from a locally-hosted Exchange system to the cloud-based Office 365 Exchange online environment. Approximately 300 e-mail and resource accounts were transitioned, which provided fifty gigabytes of e-mail storage for each user and one terabyte of storage space on OneDrive and Skype for business accounts. Users may also connect to this system using the Exchange connector for smartphones and Apple iOS devices.
Emergency Communications
As Dumbarton Oaks continues to expand in size and locations, the need for multiple communication pathways for emergency responders is paramount. DOIT implemented a Cisco 911 Emergency Responder system that sends alert notifications to community members’ e-mails and cell phones, allowing our security team to quickly respond to an emergency by building location and floor. The system also alerts 911 emergency responders to the address and specific Dumbarton Oaks building in the event of an emergency.

IT Security Risk Management Intuitive
The following risk and mitigation plans have been put in place:

Acquired, designed, and implemented Mozy, a mobile backup solution that reduces the risk of losing end users’ data. The application provides worry-free cloud-based automatic backup protection. If
disaster ever strikes, end users have the power to restore files with a single click.

Acquired, designed, and implemented Deep Freeze Enterprise. To eliminate the risk to our readily available public computers throughout the institution, DOIT has implemented this solution to protect these computers by freezing a snapshot of the standard configuration and settings which, when compromised by any unwelcome or unwanted changes, can be restored by simply rebooting the system.

Implemented an intrusion detection system to proactively detect and mitigate IT security incidents. Any outgoing traffic is checked against known bad reputation URLs (i.e., URLs or IP addresses deemed to lure users to malicious websites).

To protect against hackers and data leaks, DOIT has acquired, designed, and implemented an e-mail encryption solution. This protects the transmission of sensitive information over e-mail by effectively rendering the information unreadable while in transit. It also aligns with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the security and privacy rules of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Payment Card Industry (PCI) regulation.

Removed the public wireless network from the 1700 Wisconsin Avenue building to prevent its access to unsolicited users who were competing with our legitimate Dumbarton Oaks end users. This has significantly reduced the load and increased bandwidth availability.

Automated remote management and patching of all desktop computers to ensure they were updated with patches for Windows and Mac operating systems and third-party applications; and remedied vulnerabilities and enforced security policies for endpoint security protection.

Optimize University Operations-IT Support Services
It is not all about technology, it is about people. This year, DOIT looked to leverage technology to help people at the institution be more productive and effective. To do this, DOIT sought to enhance the institution’s technology-based operations and systems, which in turn increased institutional effectiveness. In our approach to automate and enhance business processes to improve efficiency, service, and usability, we partnered with our academic manager, events manager, and human resources department to:
• Develop an access management system to support efficient and effective ways to provision and deprovision resources and access to staff and various constituents.

• Launch a new self-serve portal that provides information and options for fellows and staff.

• Review fellowship application processes and evaluation management system to support processes.

• Complete a customer relationship management (CRM) database system evaluation, begin review, and plan for implementation.
Trustees for Harvard University, Executive Committee, Honorary Affiliates, Senior Fellows, and Staff

Trustees for Harvard University
   Drew Gilpin Faust, President
   Lawrence S. Bacow
   James W. Breyer
   Paul J. Finnegan
   Karen Gordon Mills
   Susan L. Graham
   Nannerl O. Keohane
   William F. Lee
   Jessica Tuchman Mathews
   Joseph J. O’Donnell
   Theodore V. Wells Jr.

Executive Committee
Thomas B. F. Cummins, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of the History of Pre-Columbian and Colonial Art
Ioli Kalavrezou, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine Art
Michael Puett, Walter C. Klein Professor of Chinese History; Chair of the Committee on the Study of Religion
Diana Sorensen, James F. Rothenberg Professor of Romance Languages and Literatures and of Comparative Literature; Dean of Arts and Humanities, Ex Officio
Mathilda van Es, Associate Dean for Administration for Arts and Humanities, Ex Officio

Jan M. Ziolkowski, Arthur Kingsley Porter Professor of Medieval Latin; Director of the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Ex Officio

Honorary Affiliates
Susan Boyd, Curator of the Byzantine Collection, 1979–2004
Giles Constable, Director, 1977–1984
Irfan Shahid, Affiliate Fellow of Byzantine Studies
Robert W. Thomson, Director, 1984–1989

Director’s Office
Jan Ziolkowski, Director
Yota Batsaki, Executive Director
Raquel Begleiter, Assistant Managing Editor of Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library
Brijette Chenet, Executive Assistant
Nevena Djurdjevic, Human Resources Coordinator
Susannah Italiano, Events Manager
Emily Jacobs, Manager of Academic Programs
Pallavi Jain, Human Resources Manager

Research Appointments
Bryan Cockrell, Postdoctoral Fellow in Pre-Columbian Studies
Elizabeth Dospěl Williams, Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in Byzantine Art History, Dumbarton Oaks / George Washington University
Rebecca Frankel, Post-Graduate Fellow in Medieval Latin
Jeanne Haffner, Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in Urban Landscape Studies
Konstantina Karterouli, Postdoctoral Fellow in Byzantine Art History, Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives
Spencer Lenfield, Post-Baccalaureate Media Fellow
Eric McGeer, Consultant for Byzantine Sigillography
Jessica Salley, Post-Baccalaureate Communications and Outreach Research Fellow
Jonathan Shea, *Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow in Byzantine History / Sigillography and Numismatics, Dumbarton Oaks / George Washington University*

Lain Wilson, *Post-Baccalaureate Digital Humanities Fellow*

**Byzantine Studies**
Michael Maas, *Director in Byzantine Studies*
Seh-Hee Koh, *Program Coordinator in Byzantine Studies*

Senior Fellows
John Duffy, *Chair*
Dimiter Angelov
Ioli Kalavrezou
Derek Krueger
Ruth Macrides
Robert Ousterhout

**Garden and Landscape Studies**
John Beardsley, *Director of Garden and Landscape Studies*
Anatole Tchikine, *Assistant Director of Garden and Landscape Studies*
Jane Padelford, *Program Coordinator in Garden and Landscape Studies*

Senior Fellows
D. Fairchild Ruggles, *Chair*
Sonja Dümpelmann
Georges Farhat
Gert Gröning
Alison Hardie
Thaisa Way

**Pre-Columbian Studies**
Colin McEwan, *Director of Pre-Columbian Studies*
Kelly McKenna, *Program Coordinator in Pre-Columbian Studies*

Senior Fellows
Thomas Cummins, *Chair*
Kenneth Hirth
Patricia MacAnany
Diana Magaloni
Gary Urton
John Verano
Facilities
Alan Dirican, Director of Facilities
Manuel Delgado, Assistant Director of Facilities

Buildings
Mario García, Facilities and Services Coordinator
Carlos Mendez, Events and Services Coordinator
Bryan Anderson, Building Assistant
J. David Cruz-Delgado, Building Assistant
Noel Gabitan, Building Assistant
Jose Luis Guerrero, Building Assistant
Larry Marzan, Cleaning Assistant
José Pineda, Building Assistant
Adebayo Thomas, Building Assistant

Engineering
Kenneth Johnson, Senior Building Systems Engineer
Michael Neal, Mechanical Maintenance Technician
Albert Williams, Mechanical Maintenance Assistant

Refectory
Hector Paz, Executive Chef Manager
Deysi M. Escobar-Ventura, Refectory Assistant
Dominador Salao, Kitchen Assistant

Finance
Gayatri Saxena, Director of Finance
DeWahn Coburn, Manager, Financial Operations
Neressa Darroux, Financial Analyst
Dina Hammadi, Staff Accountant
Jonathan Lee, Payroll and Benefits Coordinator

Friends of Music
Valerie Stains, Artistic Director, Friends of Music

Gardens
Gail Griffin, Director of Gardens and Grounds
Ricardo Aguilar, Gardener
Miguel Bonilla, Crew Leader
Melissa Brizer, *Greenhouse Specialist*
Rigoberto Castellon, *Crew Leader*
Walter Howell, *Gardener*
Luis Marmól, *Gardener*
Donald Mehlman, *Gardener*
Nathan Neufer, *Gardener*
Pedro Paulino, *Gardener*
Manuel Pineda, *Crew Leader*
Marc Vedder, *Integrated Pest Management Specialist*

**Information Technology**
Charlotte Johnson, *Information Technology Manager*
Gregory Blakey, *Support Technician*
Prathmesh Mengane, *Database and CMS Developer*
Komlan Segbedji, *Network Engineer*
Michael Sohn, *Web and Graphic Designer*

**Library**
Daniel Boomhower, *Director of Library*
Deborah Brown, *Librarian, Byzantine Studies*
Kimball Clark, *Cataloguer*
Bridget Gazzo, *Librarian, Pre-Columbian Studies*
Ingrid Gibson, *Interlibrary Loan Librarian*
Wendy Johnson, *Cataloguer*
Linda Lott, *Librarian, Rare Book Collection*
Sarah Mackowski, *Acquisitions and Interlibrary Loan Assistant*
Barbara Mersereau, *Acquisitions Assistant*
Sandra Parker-Provenzano, *Head Cataloguer*
Sarah B. Pomerantz, *Serials and Acquisitions Librarian*
Bettina Smith, *Manager, Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives*
Toni Stephens, *Library Assistant*
Alyson Williams, *Reader Services Librarian*

**Museum**
Gudrun Bühl, *Curator and Museum Director*
Renée Alfonso, *Museum Exhibitions and Programs Coordinator*
James N. Carder, *Archivist and House Collection Manager*
John Hanson, *Assistant Curator, Byzantine Collection*
Joni Joseph, *Museum Collections Manager and Assistant Registrar*
Colin Kelly, Museum Exhibit Technician
Joseph Mills, Photographer
Cécile Morrisson, Advisor for Byzantine Numismatics
Juan Antonio Murro, Assistant Curator, Pre-Columbian Collection
Patti L. Sheer, Museum Shop Manager
Laura Symcak, Docent Coordinator

Publications
Kathy Sparkes, Director of Publications
Meredith Baber, Editorial Assistant
Joel Kalvesmaki, Editor in Byzantine Studies
Sara Taylor, Managing Editor, Art and Archaeology

Security
Patrick Williams, Director of Security