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This is the tenth annual report to roll off the presses during my directorship, which began in 2007. Previously, Dumbarton Oaks disseminated only bare lists of facts and figures without accompanying prose. The full run of such accounts, reaching back to 1989, can be inspected on the website. For a decade now, a different kind of compendium has been offered yearly: a historical record that doubles as a celebration of imaginative industry. If nothing else, I aim in this statement to voice the appreciation I feel for my colleagues at Dumbarton Oaks. Without their commitment and daily contributions, all dreams relating to academic programs and physical plans would stay vaporous nothings. My collaborators in this wonderful establishment encompass dozens of extraordinarily experienced, talented, and creative individuals who not only come to work with a spring in their step but who, through their performance, put the same resilience into the strides of those they assist.

Having championed the growth of our facilities and programming over the past ten years, I have an admitted bias toward positive and optimistic perspectives on where we have arrived. In my view, we have held irrevocably fast to our finest longtime customs while not eschewing innovations that enable us better to serve our areas of studies, international and national researchers (from students on up) affiliated with them, our city and region, our university, and, ultimately, the humanities and arts. Across the ten issues of this bulletin, the sections entitled “From the Director” unfold blueprints for the decade-long vision that
has been formulated, amplified, refined, and realized, person by person, program by program, and building by building.

If these pages could be assigned a subtitle, it would read “Changing for the Better.” Over the past decade, Dumbarton Oaks has widened its scope to welcome, train, and support members of the profession even at the undergraduate and graduate levels. In addition, it has made many improvements so as to meet more of the ever-evolving needs of current students and recent degree recipients. These early-stage scholars, who have their whole careers ahead of them, hold the greatest stake in whether the institution is best positioned not just to survive but to thrive. They stand to derive the maximum advantage from extended opportunities for intellectual exchange, enlarged library spaces, enhanced fellowship resources, increased assistance from our staff, and expanded residential quarters. If the rising generation profits as never before from fellowships, residencies, research awards, project grants, summer courses, events, collections, library, and publications, and if they feel uplifted by them, we will have succeeded in benefiting the here and now as well as the future.

For attaining equilibrium between the long-established and the cutting-edge, Dumbarton Oaks has the best of examples in its founders. In their eighties the Blisses were conservative enough to add a wing in French neoclassical style for the Garden Library that housed Mildred Bliss’s rare book holdings. That traditionalism may surprise no one, yet at the same time the donors proved sufficiently radical to dare to construct the Philip Johnson Wing for Robert Bliss’s collection of Pre-Columbian art. By the same token, they stretched their outlook on what their institute should embrace in its programming. From being exclusively Byzantine and medieval, the mission ramified to encompass eventually both Garden and Landscape and Pre-Columbian Studies.

In making their gift, the Blisses had much more than a single intent. Among other things, they sought to sustain on their estate multiple fields of inquiry. Although their property had walls, the idea was not to enclose specialists in splendid isolation but rather to afford them serenity while fostering connections with the outside world. They wanted the beauties of their art, home, and garden to live on and to be shared.

At the same time, the couple knew that the surest way to ensure the long-term preservation and refinement of their vision was to associate it with a center of higher learning. To the left of the front entrance stands
From the Director

a plaque from 1940, proclaiming that “the Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection has been assembled and conveyed to Harvard University by Mildred and Robert Woods Bliss that the continuity of scholarship in the Byzantine and mediaeval humanities may remain unbroken to clarify an everchanging present and to inform the future with wisdom.” The two of them never intended Harvard merely to provide financial stewardship or governance. They wanted Dumbarton Oaks to prosper through synergy with the well-known university Robert had attended. The photographs that document the formal donation capture the pair with the president and fellows of Harvard College.
and the director of what is now the Harvard Art Museum. Three-quarters of a century on, Dumbarton Oaks profits from the dynamism and talent of a continuous stream of students and faculty from Cambridge, while also making its own distinctive contribution to the humanities and arts at Harvard.

The triad of Byzantine, Pre-Columbian, and Garden and Landscape Studies that defines our uniqueness and excellence as a research institution, library, and museum continues to be supported to the hilt, and it is strengthened through contact with chronologically and geographically adjacent relatives, from medieval and colonial studies to urban landscape architecture. In the following pages you will find many details about how we help students and researchers keep aloft at all points in their trajectories. While maintaining our conventional strengths, we have also dedicated ourselves to experimentation and renewal. Recent visitors to our galleries have enjoyed our biggest-ever exhibition of contemporary art, by local artist Martha Jackson Jarvis, displayed in a fascinating dialogue with objects from our permanent collection chosen by our curators. Mosaics from the Byzantine and Pre-Columbian domains have stood side by side with Jarvis's modern-day creations in the same medium, provoking the delight and reflection of guests, including a growing number of middle- and high-school students.

Looking to next year, I would love for all of you who peruse these pages to witness for yourselves what we are accomplishing at Dumbarton Oaks. My invitation has a special extra dimension, because if you drop by between October 16, 2018, and February 28, 2019, you can take in our next exhibition, *Juggling the Middle Ages*. The show tells the story of a medieval story that slipped into oblivion after the Middle Ages. Since being rediscovered in 1873, the tale has been reinvented time and again, all the way to today. Known through the ages as *Le jongleur de Notre Dame*, *The Juggler of Our Lady*, or *Our Lady’s Tumbler*, the main character is an entertainer who, through his humble art, moves a statue of the Virgin to grant him her favor. But don’t let simple appearances deceive you! Storytellers have remade the legend to resonate with their audiences by responding to shifts in faith, outbreaks of war, disruptive technologies, and evolving gender roles. In retelling after retelling, the tale raises searching questions about the meaning of gift giving, the upholding and undoing of hierarchies, the power of art and performance, and the nature of worship. The broad relevance
of such topics explains why the juggler has found artistic articulation on all continents except Antarctica. The repeated reimagining of this one narrative reveals the boundlessness of human creativity and demonstrates the rich possibilities for recreation and reinterpretation. No better place exists than Dumbarton Oaks, conceived by its givers as a sanctuary for the “Byzantine and medieval humanities,” to evoke the colorful and life-giving (as opposed to the dark and brooding) Middle Ages and to track their enduring hold and influence on modernity.
News from the Director

In July 2017, Jan Ziolkowski, director of Dumbarton Oaks, attended the biennial meeting of the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu. Later in the summer, he presented in a “Vox Magistri” session with David Ungvary (Harvard University) at the International Medieval Latin Committee at Universität Wien. At this September conference, he also chaired two sessions, “Medieval Latin in its Place: Prognoses” and “Artistoteles Latinus,” in his capacity as president (from 2000, following his vice presidency, 1993–1999).

As a recently elected member of the American Philosophical Society, Ziolkowski attended the society’s biannual meetings in November and April, both in Philadelphia. In March 2018, he presided over the panel “Schoolroom Drama: Scripting, Trading, and Performing Knowledge” at the Annual Meeting of the Medieval Academy of America at Emory University.

Finally, in May, Ziolkowski organized a special screening of R. O. Blechman’s The Juggler of Our Lady (Terrytoons) and an excerpt from The Fred Waring Show at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. Ziolkowski moderated the discussion that followed with Richard Utz (Georgia Institute of Technology) and Elizabeth Emery (Montclair State University). The event was a preview of the Juggling the Middle Ages exhibition.
Public Programming and Outreach

New Events
Two new Evenings @ Dumbarton Oaks aimed to introduce the institution to a broader community. The first, held on October 19, opened the museum after hours and featured informal conversations with curators. The second, on February 22, highlighted the new exhibition *Outside/IN: Martha Jackson Jarvis at Dumbarton Oaks* and featured two pop-up concerts with Early-Career Musician in Residence Celil Refik Kaya, a classical guitarist. Our other major public event this year was the *Outside/IN* opening event on Friday, April 13, which took place in both the museum and the garden. The first hour consisted of a standing-room-only discussion between local artist Martha Jackson Jarvis and Director of Garden and Landscape Studies John Beardsley in the Music Room. Following the discussion, the museum and garden opened their doors to attendees for an exhibit viewing and a reception.

Educational Programming
Over the past four years, Dumbarton Oaks has broadened its mission to support the humanities by providing high-touch, engaging educational programs for K–12 students. We have been building partnerships with schools and organizations that work with underserved students in the DC area. Through engagement with objects in the galleries and museum storage, hands-on activities, and conversations with professionals, students learn about how the humanities connect us to the past and illuminate the present and future.

Horizons Greater Washington
In 2017, Dumbarton Oaks piloted two weekly summer programs for twenty middle-school students in collaboration with Horizons Greater Washington, a nonprofit that develops public-private partnerships between independent and public school communities to empower economically disadvantaged students. Over five weeks, students attended programs focusing on the Byzantine coins and seals or the Pre-Columbian collections. They excavated a model of an archaeological site, struck Byzantine-style coins, and designed pectorals similar to the golden ones in the Pre-Columbian galleries.
School Visits
Dumbarton Oaks continued to host students from Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School who visited in the fall to learn about greenhouse operations, with the aim of revitalizing their school’s greenhouse. They visited again at the end of the school year to tour *Outside/IN*.

In the winter, the AP World History class from the International High School at Langley Park, which serves English-language learners and recently arrived migrants, explored the Pre-Columbian galleries and compared the exquisitely crafted objects on display, and the information they provide about the cultures that produced them, with sixteenth-century colonial descriptions of the Maya.

Sixth-grade students from St. Albans School compared the techniques and craftsmanship they saw in *Outside/IN* with the museum’s collection of mosaics to learn how contemporary art draws from and converses with the past.

Dumbarton Oaks continued its partnership with Hyde Addison, a DC public elementary school in Georgetown. The school’s first-grade classes learned the basics of plant biology through engagement
with different areas of our historic garden, in preparation for the science class they will take in second grade.

**Garden Scavenger Hunt**

Dumbarton Oaks designed its first Garden Scavenger Hunt for K–5 students. The brochure guided children to sculptures and furniture in the different garden rooms and was available in both English and Spanish.

**Outside/IN: Martha Jackson Jarvis at Dumbarton Oaks**

In its second year as an active member of the DC Arts and Humanities Collaborative, Dumbarton Oaks offered an educational program on *Outside/IN*. By engaging with Martha Jackson Jarvis’s art in the
museum and garden, middle- and high-school students from DC public schools reflected on how past and present beliefs in the spiritual and animate forces of natural materials have informed their use in art and culture. Overall, 140 students from six different schools visited through the DC Collaborative.

By the Numbers
Total students served: 250
Number of educational institutions: 11
Number of visits: 22
Fellowships and Grants
We received 252 fellowship and project grant applications across the three areas of study. We awarded forty-four fellowships in these core fields: twenty-one in Byzantine Studies; thirteen in Garden and Landscape Studies, including the Mellon Fellows in Urban Landscape Studies; and ten in Pre-Columbian Studies. Visiting scholars in Byzantine Studies and the Director’s Office, as well as a Mellon Senior Practitioner in Urban Landscape Studies, were in residence for a portion of the academic year. Six departments welcomed a total of twelve interns from Harvard University over the summer. We also awarded six project grants, ten one-month research awards, and fifteen short-term predoctoral residencies.

Byzantine Studies

Visiting Scholars

Eunice Maguire, Krannert Art Museum, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Johns Hopkins University Archaeological Museum (fall)

Henry Maguire, Johns Hopkins University (fall)

Linda Safran, University of Toronto, Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies (spring)

Nancy Ševčenko, independent scholar (spring)
Fellows

Paolo Angelini, KU Leuven (fall), “Introduction to the Medieval Legal History of the Southern Slavs”

Gideon Avni, Israel Antiquities Authority and Hebrew University of Jerusalem, “Jerusalem and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Fourth to Eleventh Century: Archaeological Research and Urban Context”

Stephanos Efthymiadis, Open University of Cyprus, “Hagia Sophia of Constantinople, 537–1204: Political, Social, and Urban History”

Alexis Torrance, University of Notre Dame, “The Human Ideal in Byzantine Theology”

Bernd Andreas Vest, independent scholar, “The Urban Space of Antioch-on-the-Orontes, 638–1268”

Alexandra Vukovich, University of Cambridge (spring), “Byzantine Imitative and Appropriative Coins, Fifth to Thirteenth Century”

Alan Walmsley, Macquarie University, “Syria-Palestine in the Seventh Century: Aspects of Byzantine Continuity”
Junior Fellows

Christopher Bonura, University of California, Berkeley, “The Apocalypse of Methodius of Patara: History and Prophecy in the Christian Encounter with Islam”

Scott Kennedy, Ohio State University, “Thucydides and Herodotus in the Late Antique and Byzantine Rhetorical Tradition”

Ivan Marić, University of Edinburgh, “Imperial Ideology after Iconoclasm: Negotiating the Limits of Imperial Power in Byzantium, 843–913”

Shannon Steiner, Bryn Mawr College, “Byzantine Enamel and the Aesthetics of Technological Power, Ninth to Fifteenth Century”

William R. Tyler Fellows

Polina Ivanova, “From Byzantium’s East to Iran’s West: Economic Change and the Rise of Cities in Medieval Asia Minor, 1000–1400”


John Zaleski, “Asceticism in the Eastern Mediterranean, Seventh through Ninth Century”

Summer Fellows

Béatrice Caseau, Université Paris-Sorbonne and Labex RESMED, “Kissing in Byzantium”

Jean-Claude Cheynet, Université Paris-Sorbonne, “The Byzantine Family of the Chrysobergai”

Rebecca Falcasantos, Providence College, “Constantinople: Ritual, Violence, and Memory in the Making of a Christian Imperial Capital”

Dimitri Korobeinikov, University at Albany, “Unpublished Armenian, Syriac, and Arabic Seals from the Zacos Collection: A Case Study of the Border Zone”

Maria Parani, University of Cyprus, “The Date and Context of Vat. gr. 1851: The Evidence of Its Miniatures Reconsidered”

Alan Ross, University of Southampton, “In Praise of Constantius: Greek Panegyrical Literature in the Early Byzantine Empire”

Claudio Schiano, Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro, “The Tritheist Controversy on Resurrection: New Evidence on John Philoponus’s Opponents”
Project Grants

Alessandra Ricci, Koç University, “Recovering Middle Byzantine Architecture in Istanbul: Excavation of the Church at Küçükyali”

Nikolaos Tsivikis, Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum, Mainz, “The Early Christian Domus Ecclesia at Messene, Peloponnese”

One-Month Research Awards

Antje Bosselmann-Ruickbie, University of Mainz, “Cultural Transfer in the Eastern Mediterranean and Beyond, Focusing on Gold- and Silverworks of the 13th to 15th Centuries”

Laurent Cases, Pennsylvania State University, “The Creation of a Universal Empire: Imperial Reform and Local Rhetoric under Diocletian and Constantine”

Rodrigo Laham Cohen, National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET), “Jews and Christians in Byzantine Palestine in the Light of y Avodah Zarah”


Sergiu Musteșă, Open Society Institute, “The Byzantine Coins Evidence in the Eastern Carpathian Area during the 11th–15th Centuries”

Laura Pfuntner, Queen’s University, Belfast, “Between Science and Superstition: Photius, Diodorus Siculus, and ‘Hermaphrodites’”

Short-Term Predoctoral Residencies

Bastian Max Brucklaker, University of Freiburg

Scott Kenkel, University of Kentucky

Ian Mills, Duke University

James Shackelford, University of Pennsylvania

Gregory Williams, University of Bonn

Olga Yunak, University of California, Berkeley
Garden and Landscape Studies

Fellows
Romy Hecht, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, “Botanical Practices and Urban Reform in Postcolonial Santiago, Chile”
Michael Lee, University of Virginia (spring), “German Landscape and the Aesthetics of Administration: Peter Joseph Lenné and His Circle, 1815–1848”
Kelly Presutti, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, “Terroir after the Terror: Landscape and Representation in Nineteenth-Century France”

Garden and Landscape Studies fellows 2017-2018
Denis Ribouillault, Université de Montréal (fall), “Gardens of the Heavens: Astronomy and the Science of Time in the Gardens of Papal Rome”

Junior Fellows

Thalia Allington-Wood, University College London (spring), “Garden Politics: Italian Renaissance Gardens in Postwar Italy”


Kaja Tally-Schumacher, Cornell University (fall), “Cultivating Empire: Transplanting and Translating Rome”

William R. Tyler Fellows

Philip Gant, “Temple Litigation and Korea’s Long Nineteenth Century”

Abbey Stockstill, “Crafting an Identity: Landscape and Urbanism in Almohad Marrakesh”

Mellon Fellows in Urban Landscape Studies

Jacob Boswell, Ohio State University, “Urban Space and Climate in the Progressive-Era American City”

Basak Durgun, George Mason University, “Cultural Politics of Urban Green Spaces: The Production and Reorganization of Istanbul’s Parks and Gardens”

John King, San Francisco Chronicle, “New Forms of Urban Public Space and the Publics That They Serve”

Maria Taylor, University of Michigan, “Between Town and Country: The Soviet City-Landscape Nexus in Global Perspective”

Project Grants

Felix Arnold, German Archaeological Institute, “The Islamic Gardens of Córdoba (Spain): A Geophysical Survey at Madinat al-Zahra”

Maureece Levin, Stanford University, “An Archaeology of Plant Food Production on Pingelap Atoll”

Brian Palmer, Virginia Commonwealth University, “Reclaiming an Outdoor Archive”
Mellon Practitioner Residency in Urban Landscape Studies

Laurie Olin, The Olin Studio

One-Month Research Awards

Katherine Bentz, Saint Anselm College, “Gardens as Green Medicine: Prelates and Health in Early Modern Rome”

Emily Everhart, Art Academy of Cincinnati, “Allegories of Friendship in Eighteenth-Century French Gardens”

Todd Gilens, Academy of Art University, “Sustenance, Sewage, Spectacle: Urban Water in a Changing World”

Luke Morgan, Monash University, Australia, “Bodies without Souls: The Enchanted Garden in Early Modern England”

Short-Term Predoctoral Residencies

Victoria Austen, King’s College London, “Garden Boundaries in Ancient Rome”

Molly Briggs, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, “The Panoramic Mode: Immersive Media and the Large Parks Movement”


Catherine Powell, University of Texas at Austin, “Crosspollination: Agnes Block and Her Network of Women Botanical Artists in the Late Dutch Golden Age”

Sonja Weber, Technical University of Munich, “Inventive Analyzing Strategies for Design Processes in Landscape Architecture, with Special Reference to Bernard Lassus”

Pre-Columbian Studies

Fellows

Steve Kosiba, University of Minnesota, “Becoming Inca: Landscape Construction and Subject Creation in Ancient Cuzco”
Jerry Moore, California State University, Dominguez Hills (fall),
“Ancient Andean Houses: Dynamics of Domestic Space in
South America”

Junior Fellows
Gabriela Cervantes, University of Pittsburgh, “The Sican Capital:
Urban Organization in Pre-Columbian Peru”
Mary Kelly, Tulane University, “Speech Carved in Stone: Language
Variation among the Ancient Lowland Maya”
Maxime Lamoureux-St-Hilaire, Tulane University, “Palatial Politics:
The Classic Maya Royal Court at La Corona, Guatemala”
Luis Muro, Stanford University, “Moche Spectacles of Death:
Performance, Corporality, and Political Power in the
Jequetepoque Valley, Peru”

William R. Tyler Fellow
Ari Caramanica, “The Forgotten Landscapes of the Peruvian North
Coast: Cupisnique, Moche, and Chimú Peripheral Occupation”

Summer Fellows
Agnieszka Brylak, University of Warsaw, “Buffoons and Sorcerers:
The Merging of Witchcraft and Entertainment in Colonial
Sources on Pre-Hispanic Nahuas”
Erlend Johnson, Tulane University, “The Integrative Strategies of the
Classic Maya Copan Polity on Its Southeastern Frontier”
John Schwaller, University at Albany, “The Rituals of the Aztec
Month of Panquetzaliztli”

Project Grants
Scott Hutson, University of Kentucky “Salvaging Sources of Power
at Uci, Yucatan, Mexico”

Short-Term Predoctoral Residencies
James Davenport, University of New Mexico
Mallory Matsumoto, Brown University
Anabelle Rodriguez, Rutgers University
Viviana Siveroni, Institute of Archaeology, University College London
Harvard University Class Visits
Dumbarton Oaks hosted five class visits from Harvard University professors and students. These class trips are an opportunity for students to interact with Dumbarton Oaks staff, fellows, and collections in a way that supplements and enhances classroom learning and emphasizes the interdisciplinary possibilities in the humanities.

October 20, 2017: Professors Jeremy Rau, Alexander Riehle, Naomi Weiss
Classics Proseminar

November 29, 2017: Professor William Fash
Clash of Titans, Seats of Empire: The Aztecs, Toltecs, and Race of Giants in Ancient Mexico (freshman seminar)

December 1, 2017: Professor Ioli Kalavrezou
Daily Life in Byzantium; The Art of the Court of Constantinople
February 23, 2018: Professor Diana Sorensen  
Mobility and Materiality: Case Studies in Networks of Collecting and Displacement

March 23, 2018: Professor Eurydice Georganteli  
At Cross Purposes: The Crusades in Material Culture

Wintersession Course
For the fourth year, we hosted a Wintersession course for Harvard students. This year it focused on Culture and Philanthropy in America, offering students historical and contemporary perspectives on the history and influence of philanthropy in America, with an emphasis on art, culture, and civil society.

Daily seminars were supplemented with guest seminars by Stanley Katz (professor at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University), Kathleen McCarthy (director of the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society at the Graduate Center, CUNY), and John Wetenhall (director of the George Washington University Museum). Students enjoyed special guided
tours of the Kreeger Museum, the Phillips Collection, Glenstone, and the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. As part of the course, each student also contributed to a flagship digital humanities initiative at Dumbarton Oaks by researching and writing an entry for the Mapping Cultural Philanthropy project.

**Wintersession Students**
Michael Bervell  
Cengiz Cemaloğlu  
Christopher Chow  
Mofeyifololuwa Edun  
Natalie Gale  
Diana Gerberich  
Julian Rauter  
Xinyue Selina Xu

**Director’s Visiting Scholars**
Laura Nasrallah, September 2017  
Noreen Tuross, March 2018

**Humanities Fellows**
We welcomed our second cohort of humanities fellows, offering nine months of professional development, designed to bridge the gap between college and career, to Harvard seniors and recent graduates. This fellowship aims to help exceptional students begin their careers in the humanities with experience at museums, libraries, archives, and cultural nonprofits. Our fellows spent the fall term at partner institutions before returning to Dumbarton Oaks for the spring term.

Andrés Álvarez Dávila spent his first term at the Folger Shakespeare Library, then worked in the Dumbarton Oaks Rare Book Collection to prepare an exhibit on cherry blossoms. Erica Eisen worked on a joint project between Dumbarton Oaks and the George Washington University Museum and the Textile Museum. Michael Kennedy-Yoon created educational programming at the Museum of Natural History’s Q?rius department before returning to assist with educational outreach at Dumbarton Oaks. Adela Kim worked on preparations for the upcoming exhibit *The New Woman Behind the*
Camera at the National Gallery of Art, then worked with Bettina Smith in the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives to further the Syria Documentation Project. Abby Westover joined Álvarez Dávila at the Folger and worked alongside archivist James Carder on the Ephemera Collection project. Faye Zhang applied her artistic talents to her work at the Smithsonian Folkways Recordings before returning to work on the Mapping Cultural Philanthropy project.

Postdoctoral Fellowship

**Konstantina Karterouli** (PhD Harvard, 2014) was postdoctoral fellow in Byzantine art history. Working in the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives, Karterouli researched collection materials to better situate the collections in their intellectual and scholarly contexts and advise on digitization priorities. She also contributed to processing, cataloguing, and digitizing the collection of photographs of Syrian monuments recently donated by Frank Kidner.

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship

**Elizabeth Dospěl Williams** (PhD New York University, 2015), postdoctoral teaching fellow in Byzantine art history, coordinated the online catalogue of late antique and Byzantine textiles. She also taught at George Washington University. Later in the year she was appointed assistant curator of the Byzantine Collection at Dumbarton Oaks.

Postgraduate Fellowships

**Postgraduate Curatorial Fellow Alona Bach** graduated from Harvard in 2016, where she studied history of science and dramatic arts. She also holds an MPhil in history and philosophy of science from the University of Cambridge. As the postgraduate curatorial fellow for the *Juggling the Middle Ages* exhibit, Bach assisted with exhibit curation, managing the juggler archive, processing new acquisitions, planning and giving tours of the collection, and developing content for the exhibit’s catalogue and website.
Postgraduate Ephemera Fellow Lane Baker graduated from Harvard in 2016 with a degree in history and a secondary in linguistics. Baker focused on collecting, researching, cataloguing, and displaying historical ephemera related to the institution’s three subject areas. In this capacity, he learned about the acquisition and conservation of historical materials, completed an online catalogue for the ephemera, and created two original museum exhibitions for the public.

Postgraduate Curatorial Fellow Kathryn McCawley graduated from Harvard in 2017 in visual and environmental studies, focusing on film production and art history. She worked with the curatorial team and assisted in the creation of exhibitions, the most recent being Outside/IN. McCawley helped select collection objects for display, filmed a teaser video, and designed publicity material for the museum.

Postgraduate Public Programming and Outreach Fellow Nathalie Miraval earned her AB in history of art and architecture, with a secondary in ethnicity, migration, and rights from Harvard in 2014. Since joining Dumbarton Oaks in 2016, Miraval has designed and piloted educational programs in the museum and garden for elementary-, middle-, and high-school students.

Postgraduate Digital Media Fellow Miga Purev-Ochir graduated from Harvard in 2017 with an AB in visual and environmental studies. Through her photography, videography, and graphic design work, she made Dumbarton Oaks’ history and collections more visible and accessible online, including a video series about the history of the Main House, a video series about the humanities fellowship program, and collateral design for the upcoming Juggling the Middle Ages exhibit.

Postgraduate Writing and Reporting Fellow Bailey Trela received an AB in English from Harvard, and since 2016 has worked to promote Dumbarton Oaks’ initiatives, acquisitions, exhibits, and scholarly events in a lively and accessible manner. In addition to running a weekly interview series with academic fellows highlighting their research; providing write-ups of academic events, including symposia, colloquia, and public lectures; and producing content for our monthly newsletter, he has written scripts for video projects and prepared a narrative report of the garden renovation project.
Harvard University Summer Interns


Abena Duker ’20 worked with the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives on the Syria Documentation Project.

Thomas Dumbach ’19 helped update online bibliographies and digitize the bibliography on gender in Byzantium, and contributed to the Greek Optical Character Recognition project in the Publications Department.

Elizabeth Duncan ’20 worked with the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives on the Syria Documentation Project.

Noah Houghton ’21 researched DC-area cultural institutions as part of the Mapping Cultural Philanthropy project.


Julia Lu ’20 researched DC-area cultural institutions as part of the Mapping Cultural Philanthropy project.

Paul O’Hara ’19 assisted with a study of Inca metal figurines in the Dumbarton Oaks collection.

Emily Oliveira ’19 supported the development and coordination of educational summer activities for local students.

Joseph Shack, a second-year PhD student, edited translations for the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library series.

Emma van der Heide ’20 assisted with a project studying biological complexity in the historic garden at Dumbarton Oaks.

Bliss Symposium Awards

Harvard graduate and undergraduate students receive travel support and conference registration at Dumbarton Oaks’ scholarly gatherings.

2017 Garden and Landscape Studies Colloquium, “How Designers Think”

Melody Stein, MLA candidate, Harvard Graduate School of Design
2017 Pre-Columbian Studies Symposium, “Teotihuacan: The World beyond the City”

Solsiré Cusicanqui Marsano, PhD candidate, Department of Anthropology

Trenton Barnes, PhD candidate, Department of History of Art and Architecture

Alexis Hartford, PhD candidate, Department of Anthropology

2018 Byzantine Studies Symposium, “The Diagram Paradigm: Byzantium, the Islamic World, and the Latin West”

Eleanor Goerss, PhD candidate, Department of History of Art and Architecture

Avantika Kumar, PhD candidate, Department of History of Art and Architecture

Elena Iourtaeva, PhD candidate, Department of History of Art and Architecture

2018 Garden and Landscape Symposium, “Military Landscapes”

Ann Hunter Lynch, MLA candidate, Harvard Graduate School of Design

Juan David Grisales, MLA candidate, Harvard Graduate School of Design

Estello Raganit, MLA candidate, Harvard Graduate School of Design

Mellon Symposium and Colloquium Awards

Liz Camuti, MLA candidate, University of Virginia

Sara Jacobs, PhD candidate in history, theory, and representation of the built environment, University of Washington

Katie Kelly, MLA candidate, University of Virginia

Jean Ni, MLA candidate, University of Washington

Andrew Op’t Hof, PhD candidate in geography, Rutgers University

Simon Rabyniuk, MArch candidate, University of Toronto

Krista Reimer, MLA candidate, University of Pennsylvania
Fellowship Reports

Byzantine Studies

Fellows

Paolo Angelini, KU Leuven (fall), “Introduction to the Medieval Legal History of the Southern Slavs”

My goal is to publish an introduction to the medieval legal history of the Southern Slavs. The book focuses on the development of the different juridical systems of the Balkan peninsula (ninth to fifteenth century). The last part deals with the concept of the *ius commune graeco-romanum*, thus with the influence and reception of Byzantine law among the Slavs. Legal historians have stressed the importance of Roman law and the *ius commune* in western Europe, but this perspective is missing in Byzantine legal history for eastern Europe. The book is based on a Yugoslav perspective, moving away from the concept of national legal history, which became predominant after the ethnic conflicts of the last decade of the twentieth century. I collected several books that are indispensable to my introduction. I prepared two articles, which will be published in 2018: the first on the *Syntagma* of Blastares and the reception of Roman law in Serbia, the second on the birth and development of the Slavs’ legal history in the nineteenth century.

Gideon Avni, Israel Antiquities Authority and Hebrew University of Jerusalem, “Jerusalem and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Fourth to Eleventh Century: Archaeological Research and Urban Context”

I used my fellowship for a comprehensive evaluation of the architectural history of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Byzantine and early Islamic Jerusalem. I conducted research in three concentric levels: the publication of the recent surveys and excavations at the church and surroundings, the incorporation of data from these excavations into a wider view of the development and architectural changes in the Constantinian church between the fourth and eleventh centuries, and the significance of the church as a major Christian site and pilgrimage destination within the development of Jerusalem under Byzantine and Islamic rule. Using the library’s invaluable resources, I extended the study of the church into conceptual research on the contiguity between different religious centers in a single urban context, examining the impact of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Haram al-Sharif on the creation of new urban zoning in Jerusalem. The comprehensive picture provided by archaeological and textual evidence enables the synchronic and diachronic reconstruction of urban changes in Jerusalem, in comparison to other cities in Syria-Palestine in the Byzantine and early Islamic periods.

Stephanos Efthymiadis, Open University of Cyprus, “Hagia Sophia of Constantinople, 537–1204: Political, Social, and Urban History”

I intend to produce a monograph on the political, social, and urban history of Hagia Sophia, the monument-symbol of Byzantium and its civilization. The standard picture of Hagia Sophia was naturally that of a sacred temple where church offices were performed daily, the residence of the patriarch of Constantinople, and the stage for imperial ceremonies and public appearances of the emperor. Yet often the church was a political arena. It was caught in the middle of rivalries between the emperor and the patriarch, the emperor and the populace, the populace and the patriarch, or even its clergy and the patriarch. I located a large amount of bibliography and other material that enabled me to examine the less spectacular, but no less important, aspects of the monument and its development between 532 and 1204. I studied Robert Van Nice’s collection of papers, notes,
and photographs at the ICFA and consulted the rich sigillographic collection that records names and offices of the clergymen of Hagia Sophia, i.e., a significant part of those individuals who can be termed “its people.” This material is the substantial basis of my book; I have drafted the first three chapters.

**Alexis Torrance, University of Notre Dame, “The Human Ideal in Byzantine Theology”**

I studied debates and discussions surrounding the concepts of perfection and the human ideal in Byzantium. Examining a series of “flashpoints” of especial interest—from the writings of Maximus the Confessor in the seventh century to the hesychast controversy in the fourteenth—I made significant progress in piecing together a mosaic of sorts that conveys some of the breadth and depth of Byzantine interest in this topic. From intricate discussion of the relationship between “rest” and “movement” in the age to come in Maximus and the earthy, “concretized” understanding of perfection in Theodore the Studite, to the controlling role of Christological dogma in Symeon the New Theologian’s vision of deification and the debates during the hesychast controversy over the precise role of reason in the perfected life, the project brings together an array of issues of fundamental concern in Byzantine theology, each of which is still subject to significant scholarly discussion and debate. I also completed a coedited volume, *Personhood in the Byzantine Christian Tradition*; published an article on the reception of Palamite thought on the island of Cyprus in the fourteenth century; and finished several forthcoming articles and chapters.

**Bernd Andreas Vest, “The Urban Space of Antioch-on-the-Orontes, 638–1268”**

I reassessed and reexamined the written sources on the medieval history of Syrian Antioch-on-the-Orontes from the time of its Arab-Muslim conquest until the city’s destruction in 1268, focusing on Antioch’s historical topography and urban landscape. I took into consideration not only the Greek, Latin, Old French, and Arabic but also the Syriac, Armenian, and other sources to contribute to the discourse on the city’s history and archaeology, the construction of its urban identity, and the “vision” of Antioch. The project could not be completed in an academic year, so I dedicated the lion’s share of my time to compiling as much material as possible. This consists of every
mention of single buildings (notably churches, palaces, the walls, single gates, and single houses), buildings mentioned collectively (like houses and gates in general), and topographical features like city quarters, gardens, streets, wells, ovens, and even some artifacts closely connected with these. This includes information regarding the erection or destruction of buildings and their use, their buying, selling, renting, renovation, and so on. Special emphasis has been given to Antioch’s church buildings. After collecting material from a great variety of sources, I formed a consistent chronological account of all the available data.

Alexandra Vukovich, University of Cambridge (spring), “Byzantine Imitative and Appropriative Coins, Fifth to Thirteenth Century”

I undertook the first part of my study on Byzantine imitation coinage. I mainly used the rich bibliographic resources of the Byzantine collection to gain a broader perspective on Byzantine imitation coinages, the coins themselves being difficult to access. One of my main goals was to examine Byzantine coins as the cross-cultural borrowing of political symbols via iconography and text. The result of my study was the development of comparative material, as I began to focus on northern European imitation coins. The material I collected allowed me to elaborate an object of study that will take into account the broader context of the production of Byzantine imitation coins across cultures and time. The focus on the northern world highlights the contradictions between written sources and material culture for that region, pointing to different interpretations of the Byzantine symbolic landscape in creating both contingent and distinct political groups in the area that would become Rus. My research further demonstrated the malleability of Byzantine material to suit the purposes of group distinction, while highlighting belonging to the Byzantine cultural sphere through material culture bolstered by religious affiliation.

Alan Walmsley, Macquarie University, “Syria-Palestine in the Seventh Century: Aspects of Byzantine Continuity”

Once written off as a century racked by warfare, extremist behavior, economic collapse, and social disintegration, new work has exposed the colonial and Anglo-Eurocentric/Orientalist origins of such prejudiced views. By drawing on archival material, especially
from archaeological discoveries of the earlier twentieth century, and integrating this neglected treasure-trove of data with progressive approaches that are revitalizing contemporary historical and archaeological research, a new seventh century can be envisaged. No longer seen as a hundred years of unimportant, amorphous transition, this was a time of risk, adjustment, and experimentation representative of a cultural dynamism expressed through new public and private presentations in art and architecture. A calculated and functional restatement is evident in residential and public arenas such as baths, open spaces, and houses of worship. Old cultural forms were ascribed new meaning while being added to. New political and economic policies were determinedly applied through administrative reform and agricultural initiatives, the latter encouraging widespread land reclamation and irrigation programs. Accordingly, the wide-ranging reforms that followed in the eighth century emerged from an all-embracing cultural and economic structure that accommodated community diversity and promoted personal agility in a once-maligned seventh-century Syria-Palestine.

Junior Fellows

Christopher Bonura, University of California, Berkeley, “The Apocalypse of Methodius of Patara: History and Prophecy in the Christian Encounter with Islam”

I carried out research for my PhD dissertation, tracing the dissemination and reception of one of the most influential, though often overlooked, apocalyptic works of the Middle Ages. I did in-depth primary- and secondary-source research, and I consulted microfilm images of a manuscript copy of the Apocalypse. I significantly refined and redirected my argument, focusing on how the Apocalypse of Methodius of Patara reshaped medieval conceptions of the Roman Empire and the role of empire in history. This led to several enormously productive months during which I finished two dissertation chapters. I also completed a conference paper that I presented in October at the 2017 Byzantine Studies Conference. In February I delivered the 2018 Dumbarton Oaks Lecture in Byzantine Studies at Harvard University. I also made major progress on an article on apocalyptic and prophetic notions about Constantinople’s topography in the sixteenth century, which I hope to submit to a journal for publication.
Scott Kennedy, Ohio State University, “Thucydides and Herodotus in the Late Antique and Byzantine Rhetorical Tradition”

I spent a fruitful year finishing two major projects. The first was my dissertation on the reception of Herodotus and Thucydides in the ancient and Byzantine rhetorical tradition. Before the advent of the modern historical discipline in the nineteenth century, history was primarily a rhetorical subdiscipline. I examined what the vast and often underserved rhetorical corpus can teach us about how Byzantines thought about history, as well as how rhetoric’s directives guided the production of historical narratives. I also submitted for publication two articles related to my doctoral research, one on the date and composition of the scholia to Thucydides and another on the decline of Thucydides as a seminal literary text in the middle Byzantine period. My second major project was my Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library volume, a compilation of translated texts on the elusive empire of Trebizond (1204–1461), which will appear in fall 2018. I had the privilege of working face-to-face with Alice-Mary Talbot and Tyler fellow Jake Ransohoff on the volume. I also submitted an article related to the book, which will appear in Byzantinische Zeitschrift in late 2018, and developed three other related article projects.

Ivan Marić, University of Edinburgh, “Imperial Ideology after Iconoclasm: Negotiating the Limits of Imperial Power in Byzantium, 843–913”

My dissertation examines the negotiation of a new balance of power between church and state from 843 to 913, and the lasting effects of iconoclasm in this process. At Dumbarton Oaks, I worked on the issues of memory. Specifically, I focused on the vicious anti-iconoclast polemic that began in the early ninth century, which was clearly competing with a more positive memory of the iconoclast emperors (especially Constantine V); and on the post-843 iconophile propaganda as an excellent example of modes of inscribing an official version of history into the social memory. The political and social discourse was characterized by the celebration of martyrs and champions among the iconophiles and the condemnation of supporters and leaders of iconoclasm, with the subtly expressed perception of iconoclasm as an “imperial heresy.” The result was that orthodoxy, closely defined in contrast to iconoclasm, was imposed as the legitimizing quality of a
good emperor—partly through the portrayal of celebrated imperial models like Constantine the Great. It is also notable that the integrity of several patriarchs increased enough to publicly discipline imperial figures for transgressing canon and moral laws, even if this kind of challenge inevitably provoked patriarchal depositions.

Shannon Steiner, Bryn Mawr College, “Byzantine Enamel and the Aesthetics of Technological Power, Ninth to Fifteenth Century”

I completed drafts of two chapters of my dissertation, which examines the relationship between Byzantine enameling and alchemical practice and argues for an interpretation of Byzantine enamel as aestheticized technology. These chapters required deep engagement with extant middle Byzantine texts on alchemy, which also comprise some thirty or more treatises and short recipes for artistic production in a variety of media. I looked at Dumbarton Oaks’ impressive collection of Byzantine enameled objects and began intensive study with local goldsmiths using techniques reproduced from both the alchemical texts and observed in Byzantine objects. I presented a paper at the 2017 Byzantine Studies Conference and participated in an international and interdisciplinary workshop on translating and testing Byzantine technical literature at the Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum in Mainz, the proceedings of which will be published. Finally, I completed a draft of an article on artifice as an aesthetic value in middle Byzantine goldsmiths’ works, to be submitted upon revision.

William R. Tyler Fellows

Polina Ivanova, “From Byzantium’s East to Iran’s West: Economic Change and the Rise of Cities in Medieval Asia Minor, 1000–1400”

The first year of my fellowship was split between Dumbarton Oaks, where I worked on the Online Catalogue of Byzantine Seals, and research in Greece and Turkey. Having completed my institutional project, I turned to dissertation research. My dissertation studies the history of migration and the changing human geography in medieval Asia Minor on the eve of and following the Seljuk and Mongol conquests. My research in Greece entailed studying an oral history archive—a collection of testimonies by refugees from Asia Minor who arrived in Greece after the Greek-Turkish population exchange
of 1922–1924. I used these testimonies as a guide for finding abandoned sites of Byzantine settlements and shrines in Asia Minor. My fieldwork in Turkey allowed me to establish that oral history provides invaluable clues for settlement history. Apart from visiting relevant villages myself, I collaborated with Turkish archaeologists to correlate findings of archaeological surveys with oral history data. In the second year of the fellowship I concentrated on Armenian sources, studying oral history sources, colophons of medieval manuscripts, and rare traces of Armenian material culture in Asia Minor. In addition to dissertation research, I wrote two journal articles and two chapters for a collected volume.

John Zaleski, “Asceticism in the Eastern Mediterranean, Seventh through Ninth Century”

During the first year of my fellowship, I made use of the library’s extensive Greek and Syriac holdings to trace the rise of an ascetic commentary tradition among East Syrian (i.e. “Nestorian”) Christians, who, though living under Sasanian or Islamic rule, significantly developed Greek and early Byzantine traditions of ascetic practice. I also worked under Alice-Mary Talbot on editing Greek editions and translations for the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library, which deepened my knowledge of Byzantine hagiographic and monastic literature. In my second year, I turned toward Muslim ascetic texts, examining the diverse attitudes toward asceticism and Christian monasticism articulated in early collections of pious literature called Kutub al-zuhd. These collections underscore the contested nature of ascetic practice in the early Islamic world, as Muslims articulated new and self-consciously Islamic traditions of asceticism. I have also undertaken research on unedited Syriac and Arabic ascetic texts in England, France, Morocco, and Turkey.

Garden and Landscape Studies

Fellows

Romy Hecht, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, “Botanical Practices and Urban Reform in Postcolonial Santiago, Chile”

My Dumbarton Oaks fellowship allowed me to work on a book manuscript that inquires into the nature of Santiago’s landscape,
examining for the first time how it was formed and who was in charge of its development. My main accomplishment during this year was to overcome a research approach based on site studies and refocus on the construction of a larger historical and cultural narrative for Chile’s capital city. As a result, I outlined an urban tale unraveling the crossing of political, economic, and social threads that, in the period spanning the 1830s to 1930s, permanently changed the face and structure of Santiago under the scope of botanical practices. Access to Dumbarton Oaks’ unparalleled physical and digital resources, not readily available elsewhere, especially in Latin America, in addition to the constructive criticism offered in the context of informal lunch conversations, research reports, and follow-up discussions were invaluable to my self-assigned mission to unearth the origins of Santiago’s landscape.

Michael Lee, University of Virginia (spring), “German Landscape and the Aesthetics of Administration: Peter Joseph Lenné and His Circle, 1815–1848”

Although widespread among several territories, the effects of the new “administrative vision” were most keenly felt in Prussia, where the landscape designer Peter Joseph Lenné, with a circle of reformers, developed a program of rural embellishment, urban planning, and aesthetic industrialization in response. Operating both within and against the bureaucracy, they aimed to redress the deficiencies of rationalized land management by engineering a Prussian arca dia rooted in classical aesthetics. I analyzed the various registers within which bureaucratic culture inflected Lenné’s designs and the avenues through which he appropriated administrative tools, including standardized representational techniques, to fashion a new landscape discourse. I spent many hours in the Rare Book Reading Room examining materials specific to Lenné’s work in Potsdam, including the full run of a journal published by the Prussian Horticultural Society, a practical handbook written by a Danish gardener who apprenticed for several months with Lenné in Potsdam, a scarce textbook on drawing and surveying used at the Royal Garden Academy at Sanssouci, and several rare publications containing contemporary images of gardens and parks designed by Lenné. I made significant progress on the book manuscript that will result from this project.
Kelly Presutti, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, “Terroir after the Terror: Landscape and Representation in Nineteenth-Century France”

This year was a wonderful opportunity to open my thinking and expand my purview after completing my dissertation on nineteenth-century French landscape representation. I revised an excerpt of my dissertation focusing on the aesthetic and social consequences of forestry reform for a peer-reviewed publication, including new material Linda Lott kindly discovered for me in the Rare Book Collection. I was also able to undertake two new projects, one considering the use of topographical landscape views in decorative arts and another on representations of the sea as a means of visually encoding authority over place, especially in wartime. I presented each of these projects at major conferences and both will be submitted for publication in the next year. More broadly, the wealth of literature on landscape history and theory in the Dumbarton Oaks library has been essential as I develop and frame the book manuscript based on my dissertation. I have, lastly, greatly benefited from contact with landscape architects, who generously enriched my art historical approach with their practical understanding of land use and management.

Denis Ribouillault, Université de Montréal (fall), “Gardens of the Heavens: Astronomy and the Science of Time in Early Modern Gardens”

My project was concerned with how scientific culture, especially astronomy, found material expression in early modern gardens. To avoid separating the epistemological culture of gardens from their material history, I used as points of departure the many sundials that adorned those gardens. I wrote a methodological paper on my approach to landscape architecture (“Paysage, jardin, architecture, peinture: la logique d’un emboîtement”) and two articles on sundials in gardens. The first focused on the early modern notion of ingenuity and wonder in the garden. Using the example of polyhedral and floral sundials set in gardens, I studied the coniugium (union) between mathematics and the natural world on the one hand, and, on the other hand, between a Platonist ideal of the cosmos versus Aristotelian poiesis. Finally, in “Sundials, the Cosmos and the Poetics of Time in the Villas and Gardens of the Renaissance,” I tackled the question of astral influence in early modern gardens. Via a dozen case
studies from Italy and Europe, I showed that sundials are only one element of a web of interconnected images and objects related to the sun and the stars that articulate a discourse on time, fate, and fortune.

Junior Fellows

Thalia Allington-Wood, University College London (spring), “Garden Politics: Italian Renaissance Gardens in Postwar Italy”

My project was to critically evaluate the mid-twentieth-century rediscovery of the Sacro Bosco of Bomarzo (ca. 1550–1580) as it was presented in scholarly articles, journalism, photography, and film in postwar Italy. Prior to this moment the Sacro Bosco had been almost entirely forgotten. I asked, why did the Sacro Bosco become of such interest in this specific moment and why was it previously overlooked? Investigating this moment of reemergence helps us understand, and modify, prevailing academic narratives about Bomarzo, and garden history more broadly. Garden scholarship during Italy’s fascist years has been well studied, but the following period has been little investigated. The fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks was invaluable to this project. It is one of the only institutions in the world where I could access the range of materials needed for this study, including important postwar publications on Bomarzo. Having the dedicated time and space to read this material and contextualize my archival material from Italy was incredibly helpful, allowing me to complete two chapters of my dissertation. I also participated in a panel at the Society of Architectural Historians annual conference, which will result in a journal publication: a fantastic opportunity.


I sought to understand how professional practice and landscape architectural projects contributed to the physical and imaginative identity of urban development in a region that was paramount to growing the profession, but which has received scant scholarly attention by historians of the built environment. My research adds to a growing body of literature that has so far been limited to social and political histories by contributing a perspective focused on the designed environment. The time at
Dumbarton Oaks allowed me to greatly expand on the racial foundations behind postwar development and gardening culture, particularly in the first half of my dissertation looking at community planning and garden design in mixed-use suburban development. Although I did not finish this project as originally intended, the time and space to work through these ideas allowed me to recognize the value in expanding my dissertation to incorporate these racial issues, which will interest a wider audience and ultimately make my research timelier in our current political climate.

Kaja Tally-Schumacher, Cornell University (fall), “Cultivating Empire: Transplanting and Translating Rome”
My dissertation focuses on the interaction between newly imported garden plants and their slave and free gardeners in first-century BCE and CE Roman elite gardens. My work draws from ancient authors who categorized plants as distinctly human-like, exploring the inverse relationship the plants had to Roman slave gardeners—who in the first century BCE were further denied personhood through new Augustan laws limiting manumission. I am indebted to my Byzantine colleagues for their insightful recommendations of early Christian sources and of late antique representations of garden labor, both of which have greatly strengthened my project. I am equally indebted to my Pre-Columbian colleagues for our discussions on archaeological methodology, plantation archaeology, and the archaeology of the night. My semester was immensely productive: access to Roman garden scholarship at Dumbarton Oaks is unparalleled, and I was able to dive deeply into rare sources. I also explored comparative discourse on human-plant interactions in contemporary cultural geography, which was especially influential in developing my methodology. My project benefited from access to the Wilhelmina Jashemski Papers held at the University of Maryland, and the library collection at the Center for Hellenic Studies.

Mellon Fellows in Urban Landscape Studies
Jacob Boswell, Ohio State University (spring), “Urban Space and Climate in the Progressive-Era American City”
My work centers on the entanglement of cultural, technological, and natural systems in the production of designed and vernacular landscapes. My most recent work focuses on the real, attempted, and
imaginary alterations of natural systems for the production of new or desired climates. In showing how designers have sought to shape climate in the past, I hope to better position the discipline of landscape architecture within current debates over climate change and climate adaptation. At Dumbarton Oaks, I focused on illuminating historical instantiations of climatic design and placing such work in its contemporary scientific context. Dumbarton Oaks gave me the time, space, travel resources, and intellectual feedback to complete two essays, one on the role of climate in Daniel Burnham’s plan for Manila and one on the relationship between nineteenth-century conceptions of climate and the body and pop culture representations of climate change. I have also laid the foundation for two future essays, one on H. W. S. Cleveland’s synthetic ecologies of the plain states and one on Warren Manning’s A National Plan, and hosted a productive session on climatic landscapes at the Society of Architectural Historians annual conference.

Basak Durgun, George Mason University (fall), “Cultural Politics of Urban Green Spaces: The Production and Reorganization of Istanbul’s Parks and Gardens”

I examine how urban social actors and institutions—state, real estate developers, social movements, and gardeners—invest in and govern Istanbul’s green spaces by conducting ethnographic research in Istanbul’s parks, market gardens, and community gardens; examining primary and secondary sources on the history of urbanization; and analyzing policy documents and publicity and marketing materials. At Dumbarton Oaks, I focused on situating my ethnographic research in the context of Istanbul’s redevelopment and landscape history. Specifically, I worked with accounts of planners and architects on modern urban redevelopment of Istanbul. I examined books by eighteenth- through early twentieth-century travelers (Evliya Celebi, Incicyan, Edmondo de Amicis, H. G. Dwight, Julia Pardoe) to understand how Istanbul’s green landscapes were depicted in the past. The accounts of Byzantine garden culture and agricultural traditions in the Geoponika were useful in contextualizing the current debates on heritage of urban food production in Istanbul. I also examined books on the history of food production in urban spaces and community gardening practices across different geographies. I completed one dissertation chapter, drafted a journal article, gave a talk for the Midday Dialogues, and presented at the annual
meetings of the American Studies Association and Middle East Studies Association.

John King, *San Francisco Chronicle* (spring), “New Forms of Urban Public Space and the Publics that They Serve”

As the longtime architecture critic for a daily newspaper, my fellowship was an opportunity to study a topic that, though not obviously academic, is of real importance: new forms of public space in American cities and the publics they serve. After surveying books and monographs from the past sixty years that spell out how to design successful urban spaces—standards that inevitably change from decade to decade—I explored the intellectual and historical contexts that frame today’s debate over public access and private management, as well as what might be considered acceptable conduct in plazas or parks. It’s a cross-disciplinary debate with a lineage that stretches to the early days of Central Park, and Dumbarton Oaks’ holdings show this in varied and sometimes surprising ways. Equally important, the supplemental research travel funding offered as part of the Mellon program allowed me to travel to recently completed, ambitiously curated spaces in Dallas and North Carolina—an opportunity to see how real people respond to the types of spaces that too often are critiqued in the abstract.

Maria Taylor, University of Michigan (spring), “Between Town and Country: The Soviet City-Landscape Nexus in Global Perspective”

My research focused on the historical relationship of Soviet urban environmental design to two better-known aspects of the Soviet project of “building socialism,” i.e., industrialization and the ideologically driven transformation of daily life. I argue that building socialism was never just about the buildings—and socialist urban landscape design was never just about leisure or aesthetics. Instead, I assert that the Soviet practice of city “greening” and “beautification” (*ozelenenie i blagoustroistvo gorodov*) encompassed a broader suite of objectives, from hygiene and pollution mitigation to political enrollment and ideological self-differentiation. I wrote the introductory chapter and revised three additional chapters of this project. Specifically, I became better able to situate my work in the context of landscape and garden studies, a necessary step toward integrating Soviet landscape design into global narratives of urbanization, modernization, and urban environmental
history. I also produced a conference paper placing Cold War Soviet city-planning in relation to the Garden City lineage of town planning, which I presented in early May at the Columbia University GSAPP conference “Town & Country: Architecture Between Dichotomies.”

William R. Tyler Fellow
Abbey Stockstill, “Crafting an Identity: Landscape and Urbanism in Almohad Marrakesh”

I spent my first year developing the “urban” chapter of my dissertation, which focuses on the organization of the twelfth-century royal district in Marrakesh under the first Almohad caliph. This research centered on an examination of the historical and archaeological records of a large garden complex known as the Agdal and a public square, or *raḥba*. The second year I spent in Paris, where I worked at the Bibliothèque nationale de France to complete my dissertation, focusing on the landscape of the Atlas Mountains and its relationship with a local pilgrimage site as embodying the complex ethnic and sectarian identity of the Almohad dynasty. I also visited medieval sites in and around Europe that helped to broaden my knowledge of the architectural dialogue of the Mediterranean basin, a key element in my intellectual methodology.

Pre-Columbian Studies

Fellows
Steve Kosiba, University of Minnesota, “Becoming Inca: Landscape Construction and Subject Creation in Ancient Cuzco”

I conducted research on the places and things, many of which were treated as animate beings, that embodied traditional authority in the Inca Empire and the Pre-Columbian Americas. I looked at how authority was constituted when places and things can speak, influence decisions, and demand recognition; and how our definitions and views of politics change if we take seriously that, in many Pre-Columbian American contexts, places and things were perceived and treated as bases of moral authority or as authorities themselves. The political concepts of many Pre-Columbian and indigenous Americans hinged on the perceived animacy of materials or places, but far less clear are the
terms by which contemporary scholars understand a kind of politics in which both humans and materials can play social and authoritative roles. This is largely because the concepts they employ (borrowed from Western philosophy and history) define places and things solely as symbols of power, materializations of worldviews, or props for political action. My research yielded crucial resources to critically reevaluate how scholars have written about Pre-Columbian politics and to build a perspective based on Native American principles of authority. This research has yielded three article submissions and a book manuscript.

Jerry Moore, California State University, Dominguez Hills (fall), “Ancient Andean Houses: Dynamics of Domestic Space in South America”

I significantly advanced my research and manuscript, including writing three new chapters—“Introduction,” “Big Houses, Big Men,” and “Houses and Identity”—and making extensive revisions and additions to an existing draft on materials and construction methods used in prehistoric and traditional examples of Andean houses. I wrote about two-thirds of the final manuscript, scheduled for completion in December 2018. The availability of dictionaries and grammars for indigenous Andean languages such as Quechua, Aymara, Chipaya, and Muchik allowed me to explore terms and phrases associated with traditional Andean architecture, identifying not only building terms but also concepts associated with the house. The rich resources regarding horticulture and botany were extremely important for understanding the use and availability of plants incorporated into Andean houses, whether as timbers, roof thatching, or wattle. And, of course, the printed materials and visual resources—such as the Moche Archive—were absolutely invaluable to my project. I also gave seminars at the Bard Graduate Center, New York, and at the Department of Anthropology, Harvard University, and I participated in the series of research reports and in the October conference “Teotihuacan: The World beyond the City.”

Junior Fellows

Gabriela Cervantes, University of Pittsburgh, “The Sican Capital: Urban Organization in Pre-Columbian Peru”

My dissertation research analyzes urban patterns at the city of Sican, capital of the Sican State (800–1375) on the north coast of Peru. Using architectural maps, archaeological materials recovered from
my survey, and ethnohistorical accounts, I argue that the city had a monumental core for political-religious activities and a dispersed urban pattern with several public and residential architecture complexes. During my fellowship term I worked on sections of my dissertation, wrote a chapter for an edited volume, and presented my research to the Pre-Columbian Society of Washington, DC, and to the Department of Anthropology at Harvard University. The Dumbarton Oaks library provided numerous resources for my research. Of exceptional value were unpublished undergraduate theses and field reports that include original drawings and maps not available elsewhere.

Mary Kelly, Tulane University, “Speech Carved in Stone: Language Variation among the Ancient Lowland Maya”

The focus of my dissertation research is on the linguistic variation evident in Maya hieroglyphic writing during a 150-year window from 650 to 800. My fieldwork/data collection consisted of two phases: first, locating published photographs and illustrations of the monuments, and second, reading the inscriptions and tracking the variable linguistic features. The incredible depth of resources housed at the Dumbarton Oaks library has significantly aided this process—difficult-to-find published and even unpublished documents are all collected here. During this fellowship year I created a near-exhaustive database of excavated Maya inscriptions, including their dates and citations for locating images. This has allowed me to make considerable progress on the collection of linguistic data, and make some preliminary discoveries regarding linguistic variation among even closely neighboring sites. I anticipate finishing the linguistic data collection over the summer and writing my dissertation next year.

Maxime Lamoureux-St-Hilaire, Tulane University, “Palatial Politics: The Classic Maya Royal Court at La Corona, Guatemala”

My doctoral research consisted of four seasons of archaeological fieldwork and five seasons in the laboratory. This research program resulted in multiple complementary data sets that required time and effort to be compiled comprehensively. I arrived at Dumbarton Oaks with these data in hand, ready to be arranged and written into my dissertation. Thanks to the wonderful support of the research library and staff, and that of the Pre-Columbian Studies Department,
I accomplished my objective. I wrote nine chapters and worked on over 250 figures. I submitted a first draft of my dissertation in early February 2018, and the final draft by the end of term.

Luis Muro, Stanford University, “Moche Spectacles of Death: Performance, Corporality, and Political Power in the Jequetepeque Valley, Peru”

My research is based on the archaeological excavations I conducted at Huaca La Capilla, a pyramidal mound in the Moche cemetery of San José de Moro. While my initial goal was to trace the activities carried out at Huaca La Capilla, my dissertation now includes perspectives on deathscape, processions, and nocturnal rituals. I found surprising parallels between the ritual architecture represented in the art and the real-world architecture in Huaca La Capilla. I completed four chapters of my dissertation, including a spatial and architectural analysis of the buildings of Huaca La Capilla and a detailed study of mural painting and graffiti. In addition, I submitted two grant proposals, wrote a conference paper and an article for a Peruvian art catalogue, and began working on my second coedited volume on Peruvian heritage discourses. I also worked with the Donnan and McClelland Moche Archive, leading to a detailed analysis of narrative scenes associated with the “Burial Theme” and sculptural representations associated with the manipulation of corpses.

Summer Fellows

Agnieszka Brylak, University of Warsaw, “Buffoons and Sorcerers: The Merging of Witchcraft and Entertainment in Colonial Sources on Pre-Hispanic Nahuas”

I studied fray Bernardino de Sahagún’s descriptions of pre-Hispanic Nahuas (Aztec) performers, whom this Franciscan friar identified as indigenous witches and sorcerers. These performers’ roles in Nahua culture confused the Spaniards. They seemed to be harmless artists contracted to entertain audiences, but their associations with witchcraft were not completely rejected. A key to understanding Sahagún’s classification of Nahua performers is the philological analysis of the Nahuatl term tlahuelilloc, used by Spanish friars as a generic category for evil men. Research on the cultural background of Spanish religious authors and on the influence of the Malleus Maleficarum and its Spanish “cognates” (e.g., the works of Martín de Castañega
and Pedro Ciruelo) provides insights into these colonial writings. I reviewed the literature on witchcraft, sorcery, ritual, and theatrical practices in pre-Hispanic Mexico, New Spain, and early modern Europe. I also consulted the ICFA, specifically the archives of Thelma Sullivan, an American scholar who researched and translated Sahagún’s writings.

Erlend Johnson, Tulane University, “Investigating the Integrative Strategies of the Classic Maya Copan Polity on Its Southeastern Frontier”

I wrote several chapters of my dissertation investigating the political organization and integrative strategies of the Classic-period Maya at the Copan polity of western Honduras. Because it was surrounded by non-Maya neighbors with distinct cultures and political structures, evidence for both material links from and structural transformations instigated by the Copan polity are more visible there than at contemporaneous sites in the Maya heartland. My thesis examines both the timing and degree of political changes during the Classic period (100–900) in the Cucuyagua and Sensenti valleys, 25 and 50 kilometers southeast of Copan, respectively. Results from survey and excavation indicate that a Maya lowland-style political hierarchy was adopted in the Cucuyagua valley by the Late Classic period (600–900), suggesting that it was integrated into the Copan polity. Evidence of a fragmentary, heterarchical political system in the Sensenti valley during the Late Classic period suggests that this area remained outside Copan’s administrative orbit, though there is evidence for both trade links and influence from Copan in that region.

John Schwaller, University at Albany, “The Rituals of the Aztec Month of Panquetzaliztli”

I completed work on a major study on the rituals and ceremonies of the month of Panquetzaliztli. The Mexica (Aztecs) used a solar calendar of eighteen months of twenty days each, with each month having a set of ceremonies and rituals. Panquetzaliztli occurred in the late fall or early winter, ending around December 20, and was dedicated to Huitzilopochtli, the Mexica tribal god. I concluded that within the ceremonies of Panquetzaliztli are traces of three major events in Mexica history. Foremost is the rise of the Mexica as the dominant power in the Triple Alliance, after 1427. Secondly, the civil war with Tlatelolco of
1473 also appears within the celebrations, as a prominent role is given to leading merchants, placing them on a par with warriors. Thirdly, the reforms of Moteuczoma II are reflected in the shift of the New Fire Ceremony from the spring to be celebrated in conjunction with Panquetzaliztli. Linked to this is the shift of the New Fire from One Rabbit to Two Reed. Lastly, the month reflects the rise of Huitzilopochtli as the dominant deity and as the lord of the Fifth Sun, breaking from the Mesoamerican tradition of only four creations.

William R. Tyler Fellow
Ari Caramanica, “The Forgotten Landscapes of the Peruvian North Coast: Cupisnique, Moche, and Chimú Peripheral Occupation”

I was fortunate to have two years to conduct research and carry out a digitization project related to my dissertation research. My research draws on both Pre-Columbian and landscape scholarship by reconstructing the human ecodynamics of an ancient agricultural landscape known as the Pampa de Mocan, just outside the Chicama Valley on the north coast of Peru. I relied heavily on the library resources at Dumbarton Oaks, but also spent profitable time in the Rare Book Reading Room. I drew on several key sources that inspired a chapter of my dissertation. These included ethnologies and colonial dictionaries, which recorded local place names and toponyms. Using these data, I planned a final stage of field research in colonial archives in Peru and partially reconstructed the ancient geography of my area of interest. Over the course of my fellowship, I published one peer-reviewed article and completed and defended my PhD dissertation. Finally, as part of my fellowship, I collaborated with ICFA staff to launch an online database of the Christopher B. Donnan and Donna McClelland Moche Archive.
Byzantine Studies

The Byzantine Studies program at Dumbarton Oaks, since its establishment in 1940, has supported a continuous program of residential fellowships and academic events to enable historical, philological, art historical, archaeological, and theological research on the Byzantine Empire from the fourth to the fifteenth century.

Annual Symposium

The 2018 symposium, “The Diagram Paradigm,” offered an interdisciplinary, comparative, and cross-cultural perspective, considering the range of diagrams in Byzantium, western Europe, and the Islamicate world. Its cross-cultural approach aimed to decenter the bodies of scholarly work that focus on only one of these three traditions, within which it remains all too easy to take particular uses of diagrams for granted. Visiting Scholar Linda Safran, research fellow at the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies; David Roxburgh, Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Professor of Islamic Art History at Harvard University; and Jeffrey F. Hamburger, Kuno Francke Professor of German Art and Culture at Harvard University gave the introductory presentation. Long discredited as inadequate illustrations of thought processes more appropriately represented in algebraic or verbal terms, diagrams have enjoyed a renaissance across numerous disciplines—from philosophy and computer science to the burgeoning field of graphics—as a means of visualizing knowledge. Among the questions
the speakers posed were: Why are diagrams relatively sparse (and certainly understudied) in the Byzantine and Islamic worlds? Why are they rarely adopted as vehicles of religious thought? What role do diagrams play in the development and documentation of scientific inquiry across the three traditions? How does the diagrammatic mode relate to artistic practice, cartography, literature, and the school curriculum? Why is so much of western European medieval art diagrammatic in character, but so little of Byzantine and Islamic art? How do attitudes toward diagrams change over time? And how do the three traditions interact with one another?

Summer Programs
For nearly two decades, the Byzantine Coins and Seals Summer Program has provided opportunities for students to have access to Dumbarton Oaks’ unparalleled collections. Directed by Eurydice Georganteli and Jonathan Shea, the program continued in July 2017 with eight students representing institutions in Austria, Belarus, China, France, Greece, Turkey, and the United States. The instructors worked with students in the coin room and in discussion sessions to provide insight into the historical geography, prosopography, paleography, art history, theology, and economic, institutional, and administrative history of the Byzantine world.

Building on a successful program launched in 2016, Dumbarton Oaks, in collaboration with the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library, sponsored two intensive language schools last summer. This was the second year of the program and the first to offer both Classical Armenian and Syriac. A total of twenty students participated. Most of the ten students in each course were enrolled in doctoral programs or were recent recipients of their PhD. Guest lectures and other learning opportunities supplemented the morning and afternoon sessions, which took place on the Saint John’s University campus in Minnesota. All students received an introduction to paleography and to the study and use of manuscripts as part of the course.

The Academic Year
Eleven fellows were in residence during the academic year, sharing their work in research reports over the course of their stay.
Project grants were awarded to two researchers in Byzantine studies: Alessandra Ricci, Koç University, for her project “Recovering Middle Byzantine Architecture in Istanbul: Excavation of the Church at Küçükyalı”; and Nikos Tsivikis, Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum, Mainz, for his project “The Early Christian Domus Ecclesia at Messene, Peloponnese.”

Over the past decade, the Byzantine scholarly community at Dumbarton Oaks has grown with the addition of short-term predoctoral residencies and one-month research awards. Six short-term predoctoral residents joined Byzantine Studies this year; six one-month research awards were given; and the visiting scholars program saw an increase from the usual maximum of two months per academic year to ten, with the extended presences of four visiting scholars.
Outreach

The past year has been rich in collaborations within Washington, DC, as well as support of Byzantine scholarly activities further afield.

On October 13, Dumbarton Oaks kicked off the academic year of outreach by collaborating with Georgetown University’s Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies, co-organizing a colloquium on “Byzantium, the Arabs, and the Rise of Islam” in memory of the late Irfan Shahid. Felicity Opwis of Georgetown and Jan Ziolkowski offered welcome, while Emma Gannagé introduced the event. Eight leading scholars gathered to investigate a wide array of sources, from epigraphic and archaeological materials to the canon of Arabic poetry. Topics included the religion of the pre-Islamic nomads of Arabia, the Christian presence in the Arabian Peninsula and the Levant, and the possible pre-Islamic Arabic translation of the Bible.

During the same month, Dumbarton Oaks cosponsored “The Invention of Byzantine Studies in Early Modern Europe,” a two-day symposium hosted at Harvard University. In addition to a plenary lecture, there were twelve other papers, four moderators (including both Ioli Kalavrezou, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine Art and Architecture, and Dimiter Angelov, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine History), and opening and concluding remarks by two Tyler fellows, Nathanael Aschenbrenner and Jake Ransohoff.

On February 20, Dumbarton Oaks greeted a packed room of students from local universities for the eighth annual Teaching Day, “The Outsider in Byzantium.” Nancy Ševčenko, Robin Darling Young, and Jonathan Shea gave papers. Participants were introduced to questions about what constituted an outsider and if or how a person, object, or idea might transition into something outside the accepted norm of the empire.

Dumbarton Oaks partnered with the Embassy of Greece on May 4 to host a roundtable discussion in conjunction with the photographic exhibition Archaeological Site of Philippi: A Landmark of European Heritage, co-organized by the Ephorate of Antiquities of Kavala-Thasos and the Embassy of Greece. Nancy Ševčenko presided over the discussion. Presenters included Stavroula Dadaki, director of the Ephorate of Antiquities of Kavala-Thasos; Michalis Lychounas and Konstantina Panousi, the Ephorate’s archeologists; Eurydice Georganteli, lecturer in history of art and architecture at Harvard University.
University; and Laura Nasrallah, professor of New Testament and early Christianity at Harvard Divinity School.

On May 10–13, Dumbarton Oaks sponsored an unprecedented four sessions at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University. The program included two Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library sessions. One, the cosponsored “Encountering Muhammad in the Medieval West,” drew an audience that exceeded the capacity of the room, to mark the appearance of Medieval Latin Lives of Muhammad by former Tyler Fellow Julian Yolles. The other session, “Teaching with Translations,” was devoted to Old English. Jonathan Shea presented “City Bureaucrats in the Byzantine Countryside” in a session he organized on “Topics in Byzantine Sigillography.” Lain Wilson, also of Dumbarton Oaks, presided, and former fellow Jonathan Shea also organized and presided over “Topics in Byzantine Numismatics.” Both were very well attended. At the same conference, Dumbarton Oaks cosponsored a film screening and roundtable discussion for the upcoming fall exhibition, Juggling the Middle Ages, at which Jan Ziolkowski was both organizer and presider.

On May 10–11, Dumbarton Oaks cosponsored a Byzantine panel at a two-day workshop at the University of St Andrews Centre for Anatolian and East Mediterranean Studies, “Imagined Geographies: In the Mediterranean, Middle East, and Beyond,” organized by Dr. Dimitri Kastritsis. The Byzantine presentations were by Yannis Stouraitis (Edinburgh) on “The Lands of the Rhomaioi: Imagined Geographies in a Period of Transition, 12th–13th Century”; Koray Durak (Boğaziçi) on “India in Byzantine Literature”; and Dimiter Angelov (Harvard) on “Systematizing Geographical Knowledge in Byzantium: The Work of Eustathios of Thessaloniki.”

In the summer of 2017, Dumbarton Oaks piloted five sessions of high-engagement programming drawing on our Byzantine Coins and Seals Collections for middle-school students through the nonprofit Horizons Greater Washington. The program met with great success and will be repeated in the summer of 2018.

In recent years many fellows have chosen to come for only half the year, but in 2017–2018 ten of the residential spots for Byzantinists were occupied by full-year fellows. Only one remained just a half year. The fellows came from Australia, Cyprus, England, Germany, Israel, the Netherlands, Scotland, and the United States, and there were
three Tyler fellows. For the third year in a row, one of them worked under the direction of Alice-Mary Talbot for the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library. The Byzantine Greek series has now published fourteen volumes.

Scholarly Activities

Annual Symposium

The Diagram Paradigm: Byzantium, the Islamic World, and the Latin West

April 20–21, 2018

Organized by Jeffrey F. Hamburger, Harvard University, David Roxburgh, Harvard University, and Linda Safran, Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies
Linda Safran, Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, “Byzantine Diagrams”

David Roxburgh, Harvard University, “Islamic Diagrams”

Jeffrey Hamburger, Harvard University, “Western Medieval Diagrams”

Benjamin Anderson, Cornell University, “Between Diagram and Image: On Jubal’s Lyre”


Megan McNamee, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, Washington, DC, “Diagrams and Denumeratio: Engendering a Numerate Eye in Medieval Europe”

Adam S. Cohen, University of Toronto, “Diagramming the Diagrammatic in Twelfth-Century Europe”

Nourane Ben Azzouna, Université de Strasbourg, “Illustrations or Diagrams? Figures in Medieval Arabic and Persian Calligraphic Treatises”

Barbara Obrist, CNRS, Paris, “Concentric Celestial Spheres and Their Visual Representations in the Twelfth and Early Thirteenth Centuries”

Anne-Laurence Caudano, University of Winnipeg, “A World of Embedded Spheres: Cosmological Diagrams in Late Byzantine Manuscripts (12th–15th Centuries)”

Christiane Gruber, University of Michigan, “The Prophet Muhammad’s ‘Ayn Seal: A Safavid-Period Diagram as Cosmic Catharsis”


Commentators: Ruth Macrides, University of Birmingham, John Duffy, Harvard University, Ioli Kalavrezou, Harvard University, Dimitar Angelov, Harvard University, Derek Krueger, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, and Robert Ousterhout, University of Pennsylvania
Annual Colloquium
The Byzantine Neighborhood: Urban Space and Political Action
November 17, 2017
Organized by Benjamin Anderson, Cornell University, and Fotini Kondyli, University of Virginia

Albrecht Berger, LMU Munich, “The View from Byzantine Texts”
Fotini Kondyli, University of Virginia, “The View from Byzantine Archaeology”
Amy Papalexandrou, Stockton University, William Caraher, University of North Dakota, and R. Scott Moore, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, “Neighborhoods in Late Antique Cyprus: Between Public and Private Spaces”
Nikos Kontogiannis, Koç University, “A Tale of Two Cities: Thebes and Chalcis in a World of Change (9th–15th c.)”
Leonora Neville, University of Wisconsin–Madison, “The Administration of Byzantine Neighborhoods”

Colloquium in Memory of Irfan Shahîd (1926–2016)
Byzantium, the Arabs, and the Rise of Islam
October 13, 2017
Organized by Emma Gannagé, Georgetown University; co-organized by the Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies at Georgetown University and Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection

Sidney Griffith, The Catholic University of America, “The Bible in Arabic in Oriens Christianus: Status Quaestionis”
Jack Tannous, Princeton University, “Irfan Shahid and the Martyrs of Najran”
Robert Hoyland, New York University, “Irfan Shahid and Pre-Islamic Arab Christianity: Perspectives Past and Future”
Ahmad Al-Jallad, Leiden University, “The Religion of the Pre-Islamic Nomads of North Arabia”

Maria Mavroudi, University of California, Berkeley, “Tenth-Century Byzantine and Arabic Poetry on Military Exploits”

Nadia Maria El Cheikh, American University of Beirut, “The Court of Women in Baghdad and Constantinople”

Commentators: Jan Ziolkowski, Dumbarton Oaks, and Walter Kaegi, University of Chicago

Teaching Day
The Outsider in Byzantium
February 17, 2018

Robin Darling Young, The Catholic University of America, “Estranged Christian Communities at the Borders of the Byzantine Empire”

Jonathan Shea, Dumbarton Oaks and George Washington University, “Finding a Place for the Outsider in Byzantium”

Nancy Ševčenko, Dumbarton Oaks, “The Ultimate Insider as Outsider”

Talks
September 19, 2017

Laura Nasrallah, Harvard University, “‘My mind hesitates about what it should be quiet about’: Vision and the Limits of Knowledge in Late Antiquity”

October 16, 2017

Antje Bosselmann-Ruickbie, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, and Henry Maguire, Johns Hopkins University, “Material Evidence for Palaeologan Magic”

November 9, 2017

Felicity Harley-McGowan, Yale University, “The Death of Judas in Early Christian Art”

February 9, 2018

Manuel Castiñeira, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, “A New Context for the Kahn Madonna? Michael VIII and the Union of the Churches”
March 7, 2018
Magdalene Breidenthal, Yale University, “Visual Representation and Viewer Response at the Middle Byzantine Church Exit”

April 11, 2018
Linda Safran, Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, “Diagramming Byzantine Orthodoxy”

Summer Program
Byzantine Coins and Seals Summer Program
July 3–28, 2017
Faculty: Eurydice Geoganteli, Harvard University, and Jonathan Shea, Dumbarton Oaks and George Washington University

Participants: Stephanie Rose Caruso, Pierre Charrey, Stephanos Chasapoglou, Viacheslav Kuleshov, Meric Ozturk, Ilias Pinakoulas, Li Qiang, Jennifer Quigley
Garden and Landscape Studies

Scholars in residence this year included three full-year fellows and four one-term fellows, in addition to four one-term Mellon fellows and two William R. Tyler fellows. We also hosted a humanities fellow. We were especially fortunate this year to have distinguished landscape architect Laurie Olin for two weeks as the Mellon Senior Practitioner Resident; he gave a series of talks and led fellows on visits to several of his firm’s projects in Washington. We had numerous shorter-term academic visitors, including recipients of predoctoral residencies and one-month research stipends.

The annual spring symposium, organized by Garden and Landscape Studies assistant director Anatole Tchikine and former Tyler Fellow John Davis, was held May 4–5, 2018, and focused on “Military Landscapes.” Among human interventions in the landscape, war has left one of the most lasting and eloquent records. Military landscapes can assume different forms and functions: vertical, as the Great Wall of China, or horizontal, as the Federal Interstate Highway System; overground and geometrically controlled, as the earthworks of the Renaissance trace italienne, or sunken and disguised by local topography, as the trenches of the First World War. In their most familiar form, they are sites of commemoration that continue to have powerful emotional, political, and cultural resonance. The symposium aimed to reevaluate the role of war as a fundamental form of human interaction with the land and a decisive factor in the ongoing transformation of the natural environment.
The fall colloquium, “How Designers Think,” was organized in conjunction with the Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies, which is intended to bring designers and scholars together to assess how urban environments came to be the way they are and how best to manage them. Landscape architects now in the middle of their careers are the first generation to have come of age with the challenge of imagining landscapes that might achieve long-term sustainability, resilience, and adaptability in the face of warming temperatures, rising oceans, and changing weather patterns. For this event, held November 13, 2017, we assembled a group of eight midcareer landscape designers to present how they think about a range of topics from urbanization and globalization to ecosystem services and environmental justice in the city, in an effort to explore the conceptual contours of contemporary practice.

On April 13, 2018, was a presentation by noted local sculptor and painter Martha Jackson Jarvis, who spoke with John Beardsley. This marked the opening of her exhibition Outside/IN, an installation of stone and mosaic sculptures in the garden and paintings on paper featuring botanical images and gestural abstraction, which hung in the museum. Anatole Tchikine organized a session for the Society of Architectural Historians’ annual meeting in St. Paul in April on contemporaneous understandings and modern interpretations of the Sacro Bosco at Bomarzo, at which John Beardsley spoke. Several tours provided fellows guided access to the resources of Washington, DC, including visits to the White House gardens and the production facilities of the United States Botanical Garden.

In place of summer fellowships, Garden and Landscape Studies hosted a three-week graduate workshop for advanced design students and PhD candidates. Intended to develop garden and landscape studies across different disciplines and to promote the depth and breadth of future landscape scholarship, we assembled eight early-career scholars pursuing cross-disciplinary research. Organized by Anatole Tchikine, the workshop included seminar presentations on key sites, figures, and texts in garden and landscape architecture, investigating the historical evolution of landscape as an idea and emphasizing theoretical underpinnings and methodological implications of such concepts as nature, ecology, sustainability, and design. Participants were invited to share selected aspects of their research. The workshop concluded with a visit to New York to explore its rich resources.
for landscape studies, including the libraries and laboratories of the New York Botanical Garden and newly designed landscapes such as Brooklyn Bridge Park and Governor’s Island. 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.

Newly published in 2018 was *River Cities, City Rivers*, edited by Thaïsa Way, the proceedings of the 2015 symposium. The publication reveals how rivers can shape a city’s success or cause its destruction, even as city-building reshapes river landscapes and ecosystems. Building on emerging interest in the resilience and adaptability of cities, this book considers how riparian environments have shaped urban histories and how the urban-river interface might inform our vision of the future. Meanwhile, a recent publication, *Cultural Landscape Heritage in Sub-Saharan Africa*, edited by John Beardsley, received the 2018 Elisabeth Blair MacDougall Award, given by the Society of Architectural Historians “to recognize annually the most distinguished work of scholarship in the history of landscape architecture or garden design.”
This was the third full year of the Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies, funded by the Mellon Foundation as part of a project to foster the contributions that the humanities and design and planning disciplines make to understanding the processes and effects of burgeoning urbanization. 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 addition to the colloquium “How Designers Think” and Laurie Olin’s residency, the program included a public presentation on September 20, 2017, jointly sponsored by and held at the Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum. Entitled “The Power of Place: Preserving the Legacies of African American Settlements,” it featured landscape architect, preservationist, and National Humanities Medalist Everett Fly and museum curator Alcione Amos. Focusing on Barry Farm, a community created in southeast Washington, DC, by the Freedmen’s Bureau after the Civil War, they explored why some settlements are
preserved while others are not, and what the ramifications are for contemporary black communities.

Synergies between Mellon fellows and other fellows at Dumbarton Oaks are fostered through weekly Midday Dialogues with invited speakers, including landscape practitioners and scholars leading urban landscape studies in new directions. In addition to fellowships, academic events, and public programs, an important dimension of the Mellon Initiative is providing outreach to underserved high school students in the District, both to foster urban environmental awareness and to introduce students to potential careers in urban landscape design and management. We focused on a continuing collaboration with Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School, working with a landscape architecture class project to learn about greenhouse practices and create herb and pollinator gardens. We brought them to tour our greenhouse, pollinator garden, and green roof; we took them to the University of the District of Columbia to see the green roof and hydroponic and aquaponic installations there; we provided supplies for use in the Phelps greenhouse; and we participated in final project reviews at the school.

Scholarly Activities

Annual Symposium
Military Landscapes
May 4–5, 2018
Organized by Anatole Tchikine, Dumbarton Oaks, and John Davis, Harvard University

John Davis, Harvard Graduate School of Design, “Olmsted in the South, Olmsted at War”
Astrid M. Eckert, Emory University, “Transboundary Natures: The Consequences of the Iron Curtain for Landscape”
Kenneth Helphand, University of Oregon, and Henk Wildschut, Amsterdam, “Displaced Persons’ Gardens”
John Dixon Hunt, University of Pennsylvania, “The Fortifications of Uncle Toby and Other Peaceful Uses of Military Landscapes”

Patrick Jennings, National Museum of the United States Army, “Smashed to the Earth: Documenting, Remembering, and Returning to the 9/11 World Trade Center Attack Site”

Zhang Jie, Tsinghua University, “The Ancient Regional Defense System in Fenghuang, China”

Pamela McElwee, Rutgers University, “An Environmental History of the Ho Chi Minh Trail”

Chandra Mukerji, University of California, San Diego, “The Wars of Religion and the Canal du Midi”

Finola O’Kane Crimmins, University College Dublin, “Military Landscapes at the Edge of Empire: Design Strategies for the Irish Borderlands”

Antoine Picon, Harvard Graduate School of Design, “Military Landscapes: Landscapes of Events”

Christine Ruane, University of Tulsa, “The Home Front as a Military Landscape: Imperial Russia, 1914–1917”

Daniel Volmar, Harvard University, “Enemies, Foreign and Domestic: Command, Control, and the Creation of the Nuclear Battlefield”

Annual Colloquium
How Designers Think
November 3, 2017
Organized by John Beardsley, Dumbarton Oaks

Gina Ford, Sasaki, Massachusetts, “Shifting Scales and Expanding Boundaries: Resilience in the 21st Century City”

Aki Omi, office ma, San Francisco, “Passion to Portfolio”

Sara Zewde, Gustafson, Guthrie, Nichol, Seattle, “Ecologies of Memory”

Jose Castillo, a|911, Mexico City, “The Normal and the Marginal”

Michelle Delk, Snohetta, New York, “Beautiful Function—The Willamette Falls Riverwalk”

Bas Smets, Bureau Bas Smets, Brussels, “Augmented Landscapes”

Garden and Landscape Studies Graduate Workshop
June 5–23, 2017
Organized by Anatole Tchikine and John Beardsley, Dumbarton Oaks

Visiting Instructors
John Dixon Hunt, University of Pennsylvania, “Alphand’s Promenades de Paris (1867–73) and the Real Start of Landscape Urbanism”
Kate John-Alder, Rutgers University, “City and Countryside”
Elizabeth Meyer, University of Virginia, “City as Landscape”

Participants
Kasie Alt, University of Texas at Austin, “Fabricating Ruins: Landscape Gardens and the Culture of Illusion in the Long Eighteenth Century”
Reba Juetten, University of Minnesota, “Botanical Spaces for Garden Places: Public Programing at the New York Botanical Garden and Brooklyn Botanic Garden in the Twentieth Century”
Ryosuke Kondo, Harvard University/University of Tokyo, “Western Gardening in Meiji Japan”

Divya Kumar-Dumas, University of Pennsylvania, “Gardens of Sigiriya, Sri Lanka, through the Looking-Glass: How Seventh-Century Confrontations with Site Architecture Composed the Landscape”


Nicholas Robbins, Yale University, “Oceans of Air: Landscape and the Production of Climate in the Nineteenth-Century Atlantic World”

Ben Scott, University of Virginia, “‘Altering the landscape a little bit’: Queering Landscape Architecture with Collier Schorr’s Blumen”

Jennifer Thomas, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, “Framing a Mid-Nineteenth-Century Design Turn: Thomas Story Kirkbride, the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, and Landscapes of the New York State Insane Asylum System”

Public Lecture
April 13, 2018

Martha Jackson Jarvis, Martha Jackson Jarvis Studio, “Outside/IN: A Dialogue with Martha Jackson Jarvis and John Beardsley”

Contemporary Art Installation Program
Outside/IN: Martha Jackson Jarvis at Dumbarton Oaks
February 20–September 2, 2018, museum
December 16, 2018, garden

Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies

Public Program
“The Power of Place: Preserving the Legacy of African American Settlements”
September 20, 2017

Everett Fly, landscape architect, and Alcione Amos, Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum
Exhibition
Seeing Cherries
March 14–August 2018
Rare Book Gallery, Dumbarton Oaks Museum
Curated by Andrés Álvarez Dávila, Dumbarton Oaks, and Ron Henderson, Illinois Institute of Technology

Midday Dialogues
September 20, 2017

September 27, 2017
Todd Gilens, visual artist, “Confluences in Landscape Legibility”

October 4, 2017
Basak Durgun, George Mason University, “The Cultural Politics of Urban Green Spaces: The Production and Reorganization of Istanbul’s Parks and Gardens”

October 25, 2017
Brian Goldstein, Swarthmore College, “‘What Would You Like to See on This Land?: Building Equality in the Civil Rights Movement”

November 29, 2017,
Erle Ellis, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, “The Emergence, Ecology, and Future of Anthropogenic Biomes”

January 31, 2018

February 7, 2018
Jacob Boswell, Ohio State University, “The Tropical Body”

February 14, 2018
Maria Taylor, University of Michigan, “Cultivating Communism: Soviet City Greening and Beautification, 1930s–1960s”
February 21, 2018
**Romy Hecht**, Universidad Católica de Chile, “Visions of an Unrealized Park: Chile’s Cerro San Cristóbal, 1915–1927”

April 4, 2018

April 11, 2018
**Laurie Olin**, University of Pennsylvania/The Olin Studio, “Be Seated”

**Outreach Activities**

September 19, 2017
Phelps Field Trip to Dumbarton Oaks: landscape and architecture students at Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering (ACE) High School tour the pollinator garden, greenhouse, and green infrastructure at the Fellowship House at Dumbarton Oaks.

November 17, 2017
Phelps ACE field trip to the College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability, and Environmental Sciences at the University of District of Columbia: visit to the green roof and hydroponics and aquaponics systems.

May 23, 2018
Phelps ACE final review: review of landscape designs and project results of the Phelps pollinator and herb garden.
Colombia Prehispánica
People and Gold in Pre-Hispanic Colombia

Hace 4,000 años, América estuvo gobernada por pueblos que habían desarrollado la agricultura y la domesticación de animales. Estos pueblos tenían sistemas de gobierno complejos y desarrollaron una cultura altamente sofisticada. En esta época, se desarrollaron ciudades grandes con sistemas de agua y alcantarillado, y se crearon artefactos de oro y plata que son dignos de admiración.

La historia de Colombia prehispánica es un testimonio de la riqueza y diversidad cultural de esta región. Los pueblos indígenas desarrollaron técnicas avanzadas de agricultura y minería, y sus templos y monumentos son testigos de su grandeza y sabiduría.

En la actualidad, el legado de estos pueblos se puede apreciar en el patrimonio cultural de Colombia, en las tradiciones folclóricas, en el arte y en el artefactos de oro y plata. Este patrimonio es una joya que debe ser protegida y preservada para las generaciones futuras.

La Colombia prehispánica es un ejemplo de lo que se puede lograr con el esfuerzo y la dedicación. A través de su historia, podemos aprender valores como el respeto por la naturaleza, el trabajo en equipo y la creatividad. Estos valores son esenciales para el éxito en cualquier campo y son valiosos para la construcción de un futuro mejor para todos.
Pre-Columbian Studies enjoyed another full year of meetings and events onsite and abroad. For our annual symposium we returned to the traditional venue in the Music Room following its refurbishment. “Teotihuacan: The World beyond the City,” held October 6–7, 2017, was organized by Barbara Arroyo, Ken Hirth, and David Carballo and addressed the impact of an urban phenomenon unprecedented in scale and scope in the Pre-Columbian Americas. It was one of only two cities in the New World ever to have a resident population of over 100,000 people, and grew to cover an area comparable to its Old World contemporary, imperial Rome. An interdisciplinary group of contributors evaluated models of Teotihuacan’s internal organization and external interactions in light of new archaeological and iconographic data in the context of the city both as a cosmopolitan center and as an expansionistic state. One of the most significant aspects of Teotihuacan is the distance over which its influence extended, and the symposium moved beyond the boundaries of the city to synthesize current thinking about its engagement with central Mexico as well as the role it played in social, political, and economic relationships as far away as the Maya lowlands. The symposium succeeded in its goal of developing a platform for conceptualizing regional interactions in Classic-period Mesoamerica that will guide the development of future research questions at Teotihuacan and beyond.

The fall public lecture, “Imaginary Aztec: Three Views of Mesoamerica’s Central Places,” was given by David Carrasco, Neil L.
Rudenstine Professor of the Study of Latin America at Harvard University. As a Mexican-American historian of religions, Carrasco has had a career-long engagement with Mesoamerican cities as symbols and with the Mexican-American borderlands. Working with Mexican archaeologists, he has carried out research on excavations and in the archives associated with the sites of Teotihuacan and Mexico-Tenochtitlan, resulting in publications such as *Religions of Mesoamerica*, *City of Sacrifice*, and *Quetzalcoatl and the Irony of Empire*. In his lecture, Carrasco compared how Tenochtitlan and Cholula were reimagined by writers and artists as the symbolic and political centers of the Mesoamerican universe. His discussion of writings and images focused on three major artistic representations—the Codex Mendoza, the *Mapa de Cuauhtinchan*, and George Yepes’s astonishing *Caballero Águila*—to illustrate how two great Mesoamerican cities were described and painted as central places where prodigious sacred powers ruled the urban landscape.

The spring public lecture by Catherine J. Allen, professor emerita of anthropology at George Washington University, was entitled “Looking Ahead to the Past: An Ethnographer’s Perspective on Archaeology in the Andes.” A renowned sociocultural anthropologist with an interest in Andean expressive culture, present and past, Allen is the author of *The Hold Life Has: Coca and Cultural Identity in an Andean Community* and her work also includes an ethnographic drama and extensive translation of Quechua narratives in *Foxboy: Intimacy and Aesthetics in Andean Stories*. The insights from her ethnographic research have shaped her writing on colonial and Pre-Columbian iconography and have had a far-reaching influence on the Andean anthropological and archaeological communities. Allen began by noting that it is commonly accepted that “the past is present,” but asked to what extent this is true in a region like the Andes after centuries of invasion, upheaval, and cultural repression. Can a view from the present illuminate any aspects of the Pre-Columbian past, and vice versa? She explored how ethnographic, ethnohistorical, and archaeological research in the Andes inform each other. Beginning with concrete examples of continuity in household ritual, she discussed how certain attitudes and concepts are embodied in an interactive relationship with the environment and expressed in material practices such as weaving and agriculture.

The second “Future Directions in Pre-Columbian Studies” workshop was held March 22–23 and hosted by the Museo del Oro in Bogotá,
Colombia. It was inaugurated with a keynote by Tom Cummins titled “Mitos, Imágenes y Materiales de los Andes Precolombinos—Sonidos del Mundo Lúcido y Resplandeciente, Claro e Iluminado.” The sessions began with “Introduction to the Pre-Columbian Collections at Dumbarton Oaks” by Assistant Curator Juan Antonio Murro. Sessions included “Working with Collections,” led by María Alicia Uribe, Héctor García, and Diana Magaloni; “Heritage, Indigenous Participation, Patrimony and Collections” by Santiago Giraldo and Mary Miller; “Sciences” by Victor Gonzalez, Douglas Kennett, and Ken Hirth; “Bioanthropology” by Jane Buikstra, John Verano, and Claudia Mercedes Rojas Sepúlveda; and “Landscape & Environment” by Carlos Eduardo López and Vernon Scarborough. Closing commentaries were offered by Cristóbal Gnecco, Carl Langebaek, Frank Salomon, and Elizabeth Boone. The review undertaken in these workshops of what is happening in, and between, our different fields will help shape the content of future symposia, workshops, public lectures, and related publications in our Pre-Columbian Studies program.

On March 19, Elizabeth P. Benson, the founding curator of the Pre-Columbian Collection and founding director of the Pre-Columbian
Studies program, passed away in a Washington hospital from complications of heart disease. She was 93. Betty’s tenure at Dumbarton Oaks from 1961 to 1979 is widely credited with transforming Pre-Columbian Studies from the work of a small circle of scholars to a vibrant and far-reaching research enterprise revealing the art and advanced cultures of peoples living in Mexico, Central America, and Andean South America before the Spanish conquest. Among notable discoveries made under her watch at Dumbarton Oaks were breakthroughs in the decipherment of Maya hieroglyphs, enabling researchers to record Maya dynasties and historical events in unprecedented detail. Betty organized the first conference in Pre-Columbian Studies in 1967, which she cochaired with Yale anthropologist Michael D. Coe. The papers were edited by her and published as the *Dumbarton Oaks Conference on the Olmec* (1968), inaugurating a tradition of groundbreaking symposia and publications that catalyzed developments in a rapidly growing field. Over time, this series of foundational symposia and publications became indispensable references, setting a benchmark in scholarship and production quality. The success of these conferences enabled her to begin building what has become the most important Pre-Columbian scholarly reference library, now incorporated into the Dumbarton Oaks library.

Director of Publications Kathy Sparkes and Sara Taylor, managing editor of art and archaeology, continued to oversee the production of stellar new titles, including the latest in the Studies in Pre-Columbian Art and Archaeology monograph series, *The Archaeology of Mural Painting at Pañamarca, Peru*, by Lisa Trever and her Peruvian colleagues Jorge Gamboa, Ricardo Toribio, and Ricardo Morales. The symposium volume *Smoke, Flames, and the Human Body in Mesoamerican Ritual Practice*, edited by Vera Tiesler and Andrew K. Scherer, also came off the press.

Over the last four years, PCS has invested a concerted effort in preparing the catalogue of the Bliss Collection of Pre-Columbian Art from Central America and Colombia. This will be published in two companion volumes, which have begun production. Work continued on preparing our outstanding Pre-Columbian archives, and Tyler fellow Ari Caramanica helped with enhancing the online accessibility of the Moche materials for interested scholars. Additional significant Andean acquisitions include the Nasca archive donated by Donald Proulx and the khipu archive donated by Bill Conklin. Along with the prospective
transfer of the Kerr Maya archive, these enhance the vital scholarly resources at Dumbarton Oaks.

**Scholarly Activities**

**Annual Symposium**

**Teotihuacan: The World beyond the City**

October 6–7, 2017

Organized by Barbara Arroyo, Instituto de Antropología e Historia de Guatemala, Kenneth Hirth, Pennsylvania State University, and David M. Carballo, Boston University

Barbara Arroyo, Instituto de Antropología e Historia de Guatemala, “Teotihuacan, Kaminaljuyu, and the Maya Highlands: New Perspectives on an Old Question”

David M. Carballo, Boston University, “Power, Politics, and Governance at Teotihuacan”

Marcello Canuto and Marc Zender, MARI/Tulane University, “The Materiality of Hegemony in Mesoamerica: Characterizing Teotihuacan and Lowland Maya Interactions”

Gary M. Feinman and Linda M. Nicholas, Field Museum of Natural History, “Teotihuacan and Oaxaca: A Synthetic Reevaluation of Prehispanic Relations”

Claudia García-Des Lauriers, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, “Gods, Cacao, and Obsidian: Early Classic (AD 250–650) Interactions Between Teotihuacan and the Southeastern Pacific Coast of Mesoamerica”

Kenneth Hirth, Pennsylvania State University, “Teotihuacan Economy from the Inside Out”

Diana Magaloni, LACMA/UNAM; Megan O’Neil, LACMA; and María Teresa Uriarte, UNAM, “The Moving Image: Painted Murals and Vessels at Teotihuacan and the Maya Area”

Deborah L. Nichols, Dartmouth College, “Early States and Hinterlands: Teotihuacan and Central Mexico”

Matthew H. Robb, Fowler Museum at UCLA, “Interlaced Scrolls and Feathered Banners: Markers of Culture in Teotihuacan and Beyond (or, Whose Marcador Is It, Anyway?)
Michael E. Smith, Arizona State University, “Teotihuacan: Urban Center, Global City, Mesoamerican Anomaly”

Wesley D. Stoner and Marc. D. Marino, University of Arkansas, “Disembedded Networks of Interaction between Teotihuacan and the Gulf Lowlands”

Nawa Sugiyama, George Mason University, William Fash, Harvard University, and Barbara Fash, Peabody Museum, “The Maya at Teotihuacan? New Insights into Teotihuacan-Maya Interactions from Plaza of the Columns Complex”

Gabriela Uruñuela and Patricia Plunket, Universidad de las Americas, Puebla, “Interwoven Discourses: Exploring Cholula and Teotihuacan Interaction”

Public Lectures
December 1, 2017
David Carrasco, Harvard University, “Imaginary Aztec: Three Views of Mesoamerica’s Central Places”

April 12, 2017
Catherine J. Allen, George Washington University, “Looking Ahead to the Past: An Ethnographer’s Perspective on Archaeology in the Andes”

Talks
July 17, 2017
Erlend Johnson, Tulane University, “Evaluating the Expansionary and Integrative Strategies of Maya States: New Perspectives on the Copan Polity from Its Southeastern Periphery”

July 20, 2017
John Schwaller, University at Albany, “What the Aztec Month of Panquetzaliztli Tells Us about Aztec History”

July 24, 2017
Agnieszka Brylak, University of Warsaw, “Buffoons and Sorcerers: The Merging of Witchcraft and Entertainment in Colonial Sources on Pre-Hispanic Nahuas”
March 15, 2018

**Noreen Tuross**, Harvard University, “Monte Alban, Tomb 7, and Skulls”

**Film Screening**

February 21, 2018

*Out of Maya Tombs*

**Workshop**

*Future Directions in Pre-Columbian Studies: A Dumbarton Oaks Collaborative Workshop with Museo del Oro, Bogotá, Colombia*

March 22–23, 2018

Participants: Elizabeth Boone, Tulane University; Tamara Bray, Wayne State University; Jane Buikstra, Arizona State University; Thomas Cummins, Harvard University; Carlos Eduardo López, Universidad Tecnológica de Pereira; Héctor García, Museo del Oro; Bridget Gazzo, Dumbarton Oaks; Santiago Giraldo, Global Heritage Fund; Cristóbal Gnecco, Universidad del Cauca; Víctor González Fernández, Instituto Colombiano de Antropología e Historia; Kenneth Hirth, Pennsylvania State University; Douglas Kennett, Pennsylvania State University; Carl Langebaek, Universidad de los Andes; Eduardo Londoño Laverde, Museo del Oro; Patricia McAnany, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; Colin McEwan, Dumbarton Oaks; Kelly McKenna, Dumbarton Oaks; Claudia Mercedes Rojas Sepúlveda, National University; Mary Miller, Yale University; Barbara Mundy, Fordham University; Juan Antonio Murro, Dumbarton Oaks; Federico Navarrete, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; Natalia Rodríguez Grisales, Museo del Oro; Frank Salomon, University of Wisconsin–Madison; Vernon Scarborough, University of Cincinnati; Lisa Trever, University of California, Berkeley; María Alicia Uribe, Museo del Oro; John Verano, Tulane University; Marc Zender, Tulane University.
La adoración y los indios de allí la fueron al padre
con el nombre de "Bernando" por 29 de septiembre de 1557.

Antes, en la anuencia de la segunda misa del santo, dijeron que
aquellos indios donarían agua, comidas y víveres cada día hasta que
terminaran sus labores en la adoración de Dios. Y este día, 29 de septiembre,
su presencia se confirmó con la llegada de agua, víveres y
comida para los indios que habían prometido su ayuda.

Finalmente, se pidió a los indios que continuaran su labor con
el debido respeto y dedicación, y que cada día continuaran
con sus labores de adoración y servicio al Señor.
The research library, including the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives (ICFA) and the Rare Book Collection, continued to support distinctive specialized scholarship in Dumbarton Oaks’ traditional programs and related fields of inquiry. The library is open to researchers 96 hours a week, 360 days a year. In addition to the intensive use of the library and its collections by our fellows, over 500 readers from more than 100 institutions internationally visited the Research Library during the 2017–18 year. In the same period, 118 individuals were granted reader privileges and scholars consulted over 1,000 items in the ICFA and Rare Book Collection. The library filled 830 interlibrary loan requests for fellows and staff, lent 353 items to other libraries, and supplied nearly 250 images of ICFA and Rare Book materials to researchers for study and publication. Nearly 4,000 new books were purchased for the library collection, complementing over 1,000 active journal subscriptions. An additional 42 volumes from the Rare Book Collection and over 1,500 photographs and drawings from the ICFA were digitized. Over 4,500 legacy images and associated metadata were migrated to the same platform as the new content, all of which is freely available online and searchable through Harvard’s HOLLIS and HOLLIS Images databases.

In August 2017, Joshua Robinson joined the library staff as the new Byzantine Studies librarian. In September, Dumbarton Oaks hosted members of the Association Internationale de Bibliophilie to view highlights of our Rare Book Collection. In October, an online
portal was launched that offers entrée into over seven hundred line drawings of Moche iconography by Donna McClelland (www.doaks.org/resources/moche-iconography). In December, a group of scholars and librarians from fourteen institutions gathered for a discussion of botanical resources in the digital age cohosted by Dumbarton Oaks and JSTOR.

**Noteworthy Acquisitions**

**Byzantine Collections**

In 2017–18 Dumbarton Oaks acquired just over 1,600 photographs by Paul Hetherington primarily documenting Byzantine and medieval architecture throughout Greece. Robin Cormack donated papers on the conservation of Byzantine monuments created by Ernest Hawkins in the course of his career.

Map of ancient Rome from Joachim von Sandrart’s *Romae antiquae et novae* (Norimberga: Christian Sigmund Froberger, 1684)
Additions to the Byzantine Studies rare book collection included one of the few surviving copies of an eighteenth-century commentary by Neophytos Kavsokalyvites, a monk at Mt. Athos, on Theodore of Gaza’s fifteenth-century Greek grammar. The library also continued to collect important facsimiles of Byzantine manuscripts.

Garden and Landscape Collections
Additions to the rare book collection of the Garden Library continued to focus on descriptions and depictions of specific landscapes and gardens, including seventeenth-, eighteenth-, and nineteenth-century catalogues of the collections of several botanical gardens. Gardens and botanical illustration in East Asia represented an important area of growth in the collection; in addition to new books and manuscripts, the Image Collections and Fieldwork Archives received a donation of 141 photographs on glass slides of Chinese gardens taken by Florence Lee Powell in about 1930, some of which illustrate her 1943 book *In the Chinese Garden*.

Noteworthy acquisitions relating to urban landscape include annual reports of the Brooklyn Park Commissioners from 1861 to 1873 and *Maps and charts prepared by the Slum Clearance Committee of New York, 1933–34*. The library acquired a collection of eighteenth-century letters from the Spanish crown to Manso de Velasco, the governor of Chile, concerning the foundation of and designs for new cities and towns, and a ledger book belonging to William Hammond Dorsey, the owner of the Dumbarton Oaks property from 1800 to 1805, as well as fifteen lots, comprising twenty-seven volumes, on gardens, villas, and piazzas from Sotheby’s sale of Sergio Rossetti’s collection of books on Rome.

Pre-Columbian Collections
In April 2018 the library acquired three manuscripts at auction documenting indigenous Central and South Americans’ encounters with colonizing forces, including a 1558 account of gifts given to Dominican friars by a Mixtec community in Oaxaca, a document relating to a 1583 lawsuit by members of the Inca royalty to maintain control of their traditional lands near Colcabamba, and a 1606 record of claims by the local population to land near Cuzco received from Diego Yupanqui.

The library continued to build on its strength in early books on indigenous languages of Mexico, Central America, and the Andes,
primarily in the form of colonial-era dictionaries, grammars, and catechisms. Likewise, rare items on the physical sciences complemented the study of the material culture of the peoples of the Americas in the pre-Conquest and early colonial periods. Most noteworthy among the latter category was the acquisition of the four volumes of *Florae Peruviane et Chilensis Prodromus* resulting from the botanical explorations conducted by Hipólito Ruiz and José Antonio Pavón from 1778 to 1788.
In addition to publishing a number of books, we launched a new initiative to make out-of-print and hardcover-only titles available as affordable paperbacks through books.doaks.org. We also completed several digital humanities projects, including the Moche Iconography research portal, and made great progress on others.

Dumbarton Oaks Books and *Dumbarton Oaks Papers*

*Dumbarton Oaks Papers*, no. 71, edited by Elena Boeck and Michael Maas


Justinianic Mosaics of Hagia Sophia and Their Aftermath, by Natalia B. Teteriatnikov

The architectural jewel of Constantinople is the church of Hagia Sophia, constructed 532–537 CE. Natalia Teteriatnikov describes the original mosaic program of the church and its restorations after the earthquake of 558. She analyzes the material and decorative components of the Justinianic mosaics that survive and considers the architectural and theological aesthetics, as well as the social conditions that led to the production of a distinctive, aniconic mosaic program. The book includes a catalogue of the nineteenth-century watercolors by Gaspare Fossati—the only surviving evidence for reconstructing mosaics that are no longer extant.

Knowing Bodies, Passionate Souls: Sense Perceptions in Byzantium, edited by Susan Ashbrook Harvey and Margaret Mullett

Byzantine culture showed deep appreciation for sensory awareness and experience. The senses were reckoned as modes of knowledge—intersecting realms
both human and divine, bodily and spiritual, physical and intellectual. The contributors explore how the Byzantines viewed the senses; how they envisaged sensory interactions; and how they described, narrated, and represented the senses at work. The result is a fresh charting of the Byzantine sensorium as a whole.

*The Archaeology of Mural Painting at Pañamarca, Peru,* by Lisa Trever

The archaeological site of Pañamarca was once a vibrant center of religious performance and artistic practice in the ancient Moche world. During the seventh and eighth centuries, architects and mural painters created lofty temples and broad-walled plazas brilliantly arrayed with mythical heroes, monstrous creatures, winged warriors in combat, ritual processions, and sacrificial offerings. This volume is a nuanced account of the modern history of exploration, archaeology, and image making at Pañamarca; it also offers detailed documentation of the new fieldwork carried out by the authors at the site.

*River Cities, City Rivers,* edited by Thaïsa Way

Cities have been built alongside rivers throughout history. These rivers can shape a city’s success or cause its destruction. At the same time, city-building reshapes rivers and their landscapes. Cities have harnessed, modified, and engineered rivers, altering ecologies and creating new landscapes in the process of urbanization. Yet we have rarely given these urban
This book considers river cities and city rivers to explore how histories have shaped the present and how they might inform our visions of the future.

_ASmoke, Flames, and the Human Body in Mesoamerican Ritual Practice_, edited by Vera Tiesler and Andrew K. Scherer

Epitomizing the radiating sun and perpetuating the cycles of life and time, fire was—and is—a central force in the Mesoamerican cosmos. The importance of heat and flames is evident in a spectrum of ritual practices, from the use of sweat baths to the burning of offerings. Human bodies were among the most valuable resources heated or consumed by fire. This volume addresses the traditions, circumstances, and practices that involved burning bodies and bone, to better understand the ideologies behind these acts.

**Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library**

Published by Harvard University Press

Founded in 2010, the Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library (DOML) makes available the written achievements of medieval and Byzantine culture to English-speaking scholars and general readers. This year, DOML published its 51st volume and launched a new website (dome-medieval.org) with information about the series and its boards, as well as a comprehensive list of titles. The general editor for the series is Jan Ziolkowski and the managing editor is Nicole Eddy. We were joined this year by Tyler fellow Jake Ransohoff, who assisted with the Byzantine Greek series. This year five new volumes were added to the series.
The Life of Saint Neilos of Rossano, edited and translated by Raymond L. Capra, Ines A. Murzaku, and Douglas J. Milewski

Neilos, who died in 1004, vividly exemplifies the preoccupations of Greek monks in southern Italy under the Byzantine Empire. A restless search for a permanent residence, ascetic mortification of the body, and pursuit by enemies are among the concerns this text shares with biographies of other saints from the region. His Life offers a snapshot of a time when Greek and Latin monasticism coexisted, a world that vanished after the schism between the churches of Rome and Constantinople in 1054. This is the first English translation, with a newly revised Greek text.
Carmina Burana, literally “Songs from Beuern,” is named after the village where the manuscript was found. The songbook consists of nearly 250 poems, on subjects from sex and gambling to crusades and corruption. Compiled in the thirteenth century in South Tyrol, it is the largest surviving collection of secular medieval Latin verse and provides insights into the vibrant social, spiritual, and intellectual life of the Middle Ages. This new presentation of the medieval classic in its entirety makes the anthology accessible in two volumes to Latin lovers and English readers alike.

The witty and self-assertive poetry of these two Byzantine poets provides unique snapshots of eleventh-century Constantinople at the height of its splendor and elegance. Their collections range greatly in length and style—including epigrams, polemics, encomia, and more—and were written for a broad range of social occasions such as court ceremonies, horse races, contests between schools, and funerals. In some remarkable introspective poems, Mauropous carefully shaped a narrative of his life and career, while Christopher’s body of work is peppered with riddles and jocular wordplay. This is the first English translation of these Byzantine Greek collections.

Throughout the Middle Ages, Christians wrote stories ranging from humorous to vitriolic about Islam and the life of Muhammad, which both informed and warned audiences about what was regarded as a schismatic form of Christianity. This book covers nearly five centuries of Christian writings on the prophet, including accounts from the farthest-flung reaches of medieval Europe, the Iberian Peninsula, and the Byzantine Empire. The prose, verse, and epistolary texts in this volume help trace persistent clichés as well as the evolution of new attitudes toward Islam and its prophet in Western culture. This book
brings together a varied set of Latin narratives and polemics never before translated into English.

Conferences and Meetings
General editor Jan M. Ziolkowski and managing editor Nicole Eddy represented DOML at the following conferences and meetings:

May 10–13, 2018
53rd International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University

May 21, 2018
Byzantine Greek Board Meeting

Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library Residencies
A few translator teams are invited for short residencies to take advantage of on-campus resources. 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.

September 5–29, 2017
John D. Niles, translating *Anglo-Saxon Medical Writings: Lacnunga, the Old English Herbal, and Cures from the Margins*

September 10–October 2, 2017
Christine Voth, translating *Anglo-Saxon Medical Writings: Bald’s Leechbook and Leechbook III*

September 16–October 3, 2017
Maria D’Aronco, translating *Anglo-Saxon Medical Writings: Lacnunga, the Old English Herbal, and Cures from the Margins*

September 17–29, 2017
Debby Banham, translating *Anglo-Saxon Medical Writings: Bald’s Leechbook and Leechbook III*
Editorial Boards 2017–2018

Byzantine Greek series
Series editor: Alice-Mary Talbot

Medieval Latin series
Series editor: Danuta Shanzer
Board members: Robert G. Babcock, Julia Barrow, B. Gregory Hays, Thomas F. X. Noble, Michael Roberts, David Townsend, Winthrop Wetherbee

Old English series
Series editor: Daniel Donoghue
Board members: Peter Baker, R. D. Fulk, Antonette di Paolo Healey, Susan Irvine, Christopher A. Jones, Katherine O’Brien O’Keeffe, Andy Orchard, Elizabeth Tyler

Medieval Iberian series
A Medieval Iberian editorial board is in development, with Josiah Blackmore as series editor.

Digital Publishing and Website
Digital Humanities completed and made progress on a number of projects. In collaboration with Tyler fellow Ari Caramanica and the library staff, we developed a Moche Iconography research portal on our website.

The online catalogue of Byzantine and early Islamic furnishing textiles launches in time for the 2019 Byzantine symposium. The catalogue of Byzantine coins acquired after the issue of the printed catalogues goes live next year, rounding out the publication of one of the most important Byzantine numismatic collections in the world.

The Mapping Cultural Philanthropy project, launched in 2016, reached a milestone of twenty entries. In addition to this, one of our longstanding resources for scholars, the Translations of Byzantine
Saints’ Lives bibliography, passed into the hands of Stephanos Efthymiadis, ensuring the long-term viability of the project.

books.doaks.org

In April we launched a new portal for paperback editions of classic Dumbarton Oaks titles. Many of these books had been out of print for some time and are in some of our most popular series: Dumbarton Oaks Texts, the Washington series of the international Corpus Fontium Historiae Byzantinae; Irfan Shahid’s seven-volume Byzantium and the Arabs; and Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Humanities, which focuses on the eastern Mediterranean during the Byzantine era through the prism of non-Greek texts.
Museum collections of historic cultures are not only important because the objects can give us revelations of human creativity, societal diversity, and craftsmanship. Objects of the past also provide us with resources for the present and the future; they can inspire anyone to think new thoughts.

An exceptional collaboration took its course last year and came to fruition in the spring of 2018 with the opening of Outside/IN in the museum galleries and the garden. Cross-disciplinary collaboration and cross-departmental concept development between the Garden and Landscape Studies program and the Museum gave exhibition-making at Dumbarton Oaks a fresh and different significance beyond the paradigms and agendas that frame the two departments.

After a visit from local artist Martha Jackson Jarvis, followed by research into her artistic approach and meetings and conversations between the artist and the team onsite, objects were selected from the Byzantine and Pre-Columbian collections that resonated with the narratives and references of natural materials and their “life forces” crafted into various shapes and forms. The chosen artifacts were mostly small: pendants, reliquaries, body adornments, bowls.

The Byzantine and Pre-Columbian objects, by being put in dialogue with the contemporary sculpture pieces and collages, left the frameworks, periods, cultures, and regions through which curators usually would have presented them.
Visitors and scholars alike noted, in the guest book and across various media, that the historic works acquired new freedom and force precisely because they were taken out of context. Artifacts became more surprising and revealing, and the experience was one of collapsing time through art. “That necklace of shells that looks so like Jarvis’s work, is it really Pre-Columbian and 1,000 years old?” Everything seemed timeless, reaching backward and forward simultaneously.

Research and outreach of more traditional sorts continued as in past years. The Coins and Seals Summer School, taught by Eurydice Georganteli and Jonathan Shea, took place in 2017. Classes from Harvard University and Johns Hopkins University were welcomed throughout the year. A new series of public events, Evenings @ Dumbarton Oaks, helped promote the collections and exhibitions. The curatorial team facilitated the research of fellows and scholars, finished the plans and started preparing for new seals and coins storage, and continued research on the seals holdings and the Byzantine textile collection to ready the manuscripts for publication.

Last but not least, the curatorial team focused on research and planning for three special exhibitions to present insight into a variety of Byzantine and Pre-Columbian textile works under the theme “The Fabric of Life,” starting in April 2019.

Exhibitions

Outside/IN: Martha Jackson Jarvis at Dumbarton Oaks
February 20–September 2, 2018, museum
March 15–December 16, 2018, garden

Dumbarton Oaks presented an installation of mixed-media sculpture and works on paper inspired by natural forms and materials by local artist Martha Jackson Jarvis. The project bridged the institution’s historic garden and museum collections, and featured sculptures made of stone, wood, and glass mosaic, and drawings or collages on paper combining plant imagery with gestural abstraction. The title, Outside/IN, referred not only to Jarvis’s intrinsic artistic approach—bringing together in the studio materials and images encountered and collected outdoors—but also to the fact that the exhibition spanned both outdoor and indoor spaces.
Like the people of Byzantium and the ancient Americas, Jarvis is inspired by the belief that everything possesses a life force. In an unusual collaboration between the artist and the curators, Jarvis’s work was juxtaposed with objects from the museum collections. Dispersed through the garden were several concrete, stone, and mosaic sculptures suggestive of seedpods and bones. These were complemented by a site-specific installation of bamboo harvested in the garden and augmented with vines and found objects.

*Early Byzantine Furnishing Textiles and Pre-Columbian Dress*
August 2017–July 2018, Textile Gallery
The textile rotations featured selected late Roman and early Byzantine furnishing textiles in tapestry weave used in private and religious spaces alongside looped and woven dress from the Andes, where elite individuals displayed their wealth and status by wearing fabric in dazzling colors and patterns.
Women in Art, 1850–1910
April 25, 2017–February 2018, Special Exhibition Gallery
The 13 works in this exhibition are part of the collection formed by the Blisses, who admired the art of the French impressionists and post-impressionists and were especially fond of the work of Belgian artist Alfred Stevens. Five of his paintings in this show were on public display for the first time.

Ancient Bronzes in the Dumbarton Oaks Collections
April 25, 2017–February 2018, Courtyard Gallery
The display and juxtaposition of a variety of objects, from prehistoric Chinese to Egyptian, Greco-Roman, Byzantine, and Inca, drew attention to the highly specialized techniques and invited questions of craftsmanship, use, and meaning of these ancient works in bronze.
Early Bliss Acquisitions: Collecting in Paris and London, 1912–1919
April 25, 2017–August 2018, Bliss Gallery
When the Blisses lived in Paris, they developed their collecting interests and passion and became especially intrigued by unusual objects that were newly available at avant-garde art dealers’ shops.

Loans, Gifts, and Acquisitions

Loans
March 30, 2018–July 15, 2018
Edouard Vuillard, Child at Window: Musée des impressionnismes Giverny, Impressionismes/Japonismes

April 27, 2018–September 2, 2018
Riha Paten; Riha Chalice: Bischöfliches Generalvikariat, Münster, Peace. From Antiquity to Today

September 5, 2017–May 28, 2018
Pendant with Fishing Birds; Bimetallic Effigy Spoon; Turtle Shell Ornaments; Breastplate with Agnathic Feline; Winged Pectoral; Jaguar-Human Mask; Plaque: J. Paul Getty Museum/Metropolitan Museum of Art, Golden Kingdoms: Luxury and Legacy in the Ancient Americas

September 30, 2017–September 3, 2018
Mask: Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco (FAMSF)/Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Teotihuacan: City of Water, City of Fire

Gifts
Coptic Textile; Fragment with Swirl Sphere Pattern. Wool. BZ.2018.014. From the Bennochy Collection of Professor Richard Rose FBA
Byzantine Bronze Coins Collection. From Stephen Mansfield, UK (promised)

Acquisitions
Bronze Fals, Sulayman II, AH 592–600. Seljuk. BZ.2017.018. From Tim Wilkes

Coin Weight. Byzantine. Bronze with silver or pewter inlay. BZ.2018.001. From Dr. Busso Peus Nachf.


Coin Weight. Byzantine. Bronze with silver or pewter inlay. BZ.2018.003. From Dr. Busso Peus Nachf.


Coin Weight. Byzantine. Bronze with silver or pewter inlay. BZ.2018.005. From Dr. Busso Peus Nachf.


Coin Weight. Byzantine. Bronze with silver or tin inlay. BZ.2018.007. From Dr. Busso Peus Nachf.
Docents and Visitor Service Assistants
Volunteer Program
While the garden was closed, the recently trained volunteers honed their tour-giving skills and concentrated on prebooked museum group tours. After the garden reopened in mid-March, the prebooked tour schedule was almost full. The Architecture Tour continued to be offered on the second and fourth Saturday of each month.

In April and May 2018, 695 visitors attended docent-led tours; 308 came on prebooked tours; 364 attended a free afternoon garden tour; and 23 signed up for the Architecture Tour.

Museum Shop
The garden closing in mid-October affected shop visitation, but sales for the year remained steady. Once the garden reopened, sales increased significantly and were only slightly affected by one of the hottest and rainiest springs on record. The exhibition Outside/IN: Martha Jackson Jarvis at Dumbarton Oaks offered the opportunity to develop merchandise specific to a contemporary artist’s work. Limited-edition signed prints were made from two of Jarvis’s collages on display in the galleries. Boxed stationery of her work was also designed and produced.
The past year has been one of transition, for both the garden and the staff. After exceptional stewardship over 21 years, Gail Griffin retired as director of gardens and grounds this spring. Gail worked tirelessly, leading the preservation and continued development of these sacred spaces, and she will be sorely missed. As a silver lining, Dumbarton Oaks welcomed Jonathan Kavalier as the new garden director in March.

We undertook a large stormwater project that closed the garden for nine months. This capital improvement project aimed to restore reliable water supply throughout the garden, to retrofit several of the fountains to recirculate and thereby conserve water, and to improve management of stormwater through the installation of strategically placed drains. While the garden closure and associated disturbance were trying for many, the result was a great success. The gardeners worked diligently to heal the scars from this “laparoscopic surgery” and have succeeded to the point where many visitors are unaware that such an intensive construction project has taken place. To that end, we installed a small photographic exhibit in the Catalogue House to highlight some aspects of the project for the benefit of our visitors and the DO community.

Trees experience transition as well, and this spring we sadly removed a venerable white oak that had graced the property since before the Blisses came to Dumbarton Oaks. After exhaustive diagnostic analysis the tree was deemed structurally unsound, and was
expertly removed by Dave Pail, a contracted arborist who has been working for Dumbarton Oaks for nearly 30 years. The gardeners planted 38 trees this spring, including a young white oak, which is sited near its now-deceased neighbor. As we continue to shepherd the garden through the years, we look forward to seeing this oak grow and cast shade as its predecessor did.

In the Rose Garden, gardeners replaced soil in several beds and planted 144 new roses selected for improved disease resistance. All new roses have been grown on their own roots, a practice that conveys
better vigor and disease resistance, and an improvement over the more traditional approach of grafting.

We were excited to host a comprehensive museum and garden exhibition featuring works by renowned local artist Martha Jackson Jarvis. Jarvis created several site-specific sculptures in the garden and exhibited works in and out of the galleries in *Outside/IN*. Some of the outdoor installations used bamboo harvested from the garden, and while not directly involved in the installation, several of the gardeners helped Jarvis anchor these sculptures to prevent them blowing over during this spring’s storms.

In the summer of 2017, Emma van der Heide, Harvard ’19, joined us as an intern to study the biological complexity at Dumbarton Oaks. Our property lies on the Fall Line that separates the physiographic provinces of the Piedmont and Coastal Plains. Emma gathered soil samples throughout the garden and sent them to the lab for analysis as well as performing her own soil texture tests. She then analyzed the differences in soil nutrients and texture throughout Dumbarton Oaks and left us with detailed maps as a future resource.

Spotted in the Ellipse fountain
In 2017–2018, Music at Dumbarton Oaks welcomed talented ensembles and soloists from Belgium, Brazil, Spain, and Hungary, all of whom were making their Dumbarton Oaks debut.

Violinist Jolente De Maeyer and pianist Nikolaas Kende opened the season with elegant performances of Franz Schubert’s “Grand Duo” sonata; a rarely heard work by the teenage Felix Mendelssohn; and the virtuosic “Kreutzer” sonata by Ludwig van Beethoven.

Departing from the series’s typically classical format, vocalist, composer, and pianist Clarice Assad and her father, the distinguished guitar virtuoso Sérgio Assad, explored the evolution of samba and the influence of American jazz on Brazilian popular song.

Spanish Brass presided over December’s holiday concert of Baroque classics, attractive arrangements of traditional carols, and lively Spanish favorites. The high-energy group played trumpets, French horn, trombone, and tuba.

The new year brought gifted American cellist Astrid Schween to the Music Room in her Washington, DC, recital debut. She was accompanied by the accomplished pianist Michael Gurt. The classic program of sonatas by Claude Debussy, Beethoven, and Sergei Rachmaninoff was warmly received, bringing the audience to its feet in a well-deserved ovation.

February featured the Voxare String Quartet, who focused on outstanding works by two living composers: Serbian-born Aleksandra Vrebalov (Pannonia Boundless) and American Mohammed Fairouz
(The Named Angels). After the interval, the musicians revisited an earlier era with a stunning performance of Mendelssohn’s String Quartet in A Minor, op. 13.

A highlight of the season was the recital in March by the extraordinary Hungarian pianist Dénes Várjon. His deep musicality, supported by breathtaking, note-perfect technique, was evident throughout the challenging program of music by Beethoven, Maurice Ravel, Frédéric Chopin, and the pianist’s compatriot Béla Bartók.
The local classical music station, WETA-FM, recorded the concert for future broadcast on Monday night’s weekly program *Front Row Washington*.

The season finale featured The Knights, a versatile orchestral collective, conducted by Eric Jacobsen. Their carefully crafted program explored connections between traditional Romani music, compositions by twentieth-century Hungarian György Ligeti (*Chamber Concerto* and *Hungarian Rock*), and the nineteenth-century Johannes Brahms (four of his *Hungarian Dances* and Sextet no. 2 in G Major, op. 36). To set the stage, the fifteen-person ensemble opened with *A Stork Crosses the Danube, in the Company of a Raven* by Transylvanian Romani group Taraf de Haïdouks. This was the first concert of our three-season partnership with the ensemble, who will be offering community engagement activities as well.

This year, the concert series expanded beyond being subscription-only, offering single-concert tickets for the first time. As a result, the number of attendees at each concert increased by an average of 14%, and half of the concerts sold out.

**Performances**

October 15 and 16 | De Maeyer-Kende Duo  
November 12 and 13 | Clarice and Sérgio Assad  
December 3 and 4 | Spanish Brass  
January 7 and 8 | Astrid Schween  
February 11 and 12 | Voxare String Quartet  
March 18 and 19 | Dénes Várjon  
April 15 and 16 | The Knights
Facilities
The Facilities Department is responsible for plant operations and maintenance of building systems, utilities, housekeeping, accommodations, special events, refectory operations, mail service, capital planning, and project management functions in a 14-building, 16¼-acre campus.

We acquired and started using a new CMMS (Computerized Maintenance Management System) to keep track of work orders and streamline preventive maintenance work. Building assistance team members continued to perform housekeeping and custodial duties, did special event setup and breakdown, and provided internal and external mail services. Refectory staff continued to provide lunch five days a week, 50 weeks a year for staff, fellows, readers, and other members of the community. They were instrumental in preparing the food for high-end special events at the refectory, Director’s House, and Orangery.

We completed several projects and began design and planning of upcoming projects. We restored the Pool Loggia and Terrace, as well as the pool equipment. We renovated the Main House lobby coatroom and installed new lockers. We designed and constructed new lighting for the textile and Byzantine galleries and visitors’ lobby, converting all existing incandescent lighting to museum-quality LED technology with an outcome of substantial energy savings, better collection displays, and multispace use flexibility. The stormwater compliance
project design is completed. The project entailed installation of over 5,675 linear feet (LF) of new water pipes, 5,065 LF of empty conduit for future use, 133 various valves, and a new water meter, as well as restoration and improvements to eight fountains in the garden.

We completed a feasibility study and design for the La Quercia building renovation. Construction started at the end of 2017 and is slated to finish by midsummer 2018. The project entails total renovation of the building with new utility systems, new finishes, new MEP systems, new landscape, and code compliance. The building will be LEED Gold certified and is designed for comfort of the occupants while reducing energy consumption by using high-efficiency equipment, water-saving features, and solar panels for electricity generation.

We continued to make significant improvements in our green initiative programs and provided significant savings. We have been purchasing electricity produced with 100% wind power. This translated to about 12,783,783 kilowatt-hours produced using 100% green energy, which avoids 8,815 metric tons of carbon dioxide, an environmental benefit equivalent to taking 1,856 cars off the road for a year or not consuming 991,906 gallons of gasoline. We also continued to purchase natural gas with 100% carbon offset. Based on our average consumption this will avoid 1,439 metric tons of carbon dioxide, an environmental benefit equivalent to taking almost 303 cars off the road for one year or not consuming 161,942 gallons of gasoline. These efforts allow Dumbarton Oaks to be 100% carbon footprint-free in utility consumption. The museum relighting project provided 80% energy savings over old lighting technology.

Facilities is continually looking for ways to increase service quality while reducing or maintaining costs in the areas of special events, accommodations, housekeeping, and maintenance of the DO campus.

**Finance**

We made big strides in payroll by moving from semimonthly pay dates to biweekly payroll. With continued cooperation from heads of departments and staff, our approval system has improved immensely. In accounts payable, receivables, and all aspects of finance we continued to fine-tune our policies to remain compliant and improve workflow wherever possible. A refectory reservation booking system for employees and fellows was set up in Salesforce, which led to
enhanced planning and understanding of community and refectory needs. It also minimized paperwork and led to more efficiency in recording expenses.

We take pride in providing timely and accurate financial information to all departments at Dumbarton Oaks as well as to the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Financial Administration at Harvard University.

Human Resources
The Human Resources Department continued to operate on the principle of “success through people,” contributing to the mission of Dumbarton Oaks and supporting its community. At the November 16 staff coffee, the community celebrated the employee anniversaries of Colin McEwan (5 years), Wendy Johnson (10 years), and Gail Griffin (20 years). Between summer 2017 and spring 2018 we welcomed eight new hires: Joshua Robinson, Byzantine Studies librarian; Courtney Randolph, executive assistant; Isabel McGrory-Klyza, events assistant; Kenneth Calvert, director of security; Nicole Eddy, managing editor of Dumbarton Oaks Medieval Library; Tafara Gadson, building assistant; Kristina Royal, HR specialist; and Jonathan Kavalier, director of gardens and grounds. During the staff coffee on March 5, Director Jan Ziolkowski expressed sincere gratitude to Gail Griffin, who retired after nearly 21 years. Jan thanked Gail for her devotion to preserving the Blisses’ and Ms. Farrand’s vision of the historic garden. He also introduced Jonathan Kavalier as the newly appointed director of garden and grounds.

Professional training and development continued to be a priority in 2018. On April 3, Gary Cormier, Harvard FAS senior director of HR consulting, and Anna Anctil, senior HR consultant, conducted two cultural intelligence training sessions for staff. The sessions included discovering and understanding implicit associations and unconscious bias, as well as learning how to enhance cultural awareness and self-awareness. These training sessions focused on embracing the benefits of diversity and inclusion in the workplace and community.

On April 26, Dumbarton Oaks celebrated its first Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day; 18 children visited the campus with their parent or sponsor. They enjoyed a scavenger hunt in the garden, led by Nathalie Miraval and Melissa Brizer. A juggler story narrated
Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day

by Alona Bach inspired them to create their own juggler exhibit, and they played games to learn about different professions and dream about their future careers.

Information Technology

This year in information technology we focused on developing solutions to serve departmental functions and service alignment. Using Salesforce to reorganize internal operations was our strategy, with the idea of building workflow efficiencies to simplify operations.

Collaboration was essential as we launched the new dining reservations system, which allows fellows and staff to make and cancel lunch reservations at the refectory. The DOIT team worked with Executive Chef Hector Paz and the Finance Department to develop an efficient lunch reservation system.

We also collaborated with Security to design and implement an SMS notification and alerts system for our community. Time is of the
essence for emergency notifications, so building this efficient way for Security to deliver important messages to the community in a matter of seconds was crucial.

DOIT continued the expansion of our fiber-wired network to the La Quercia apartments and Oaks Townhouse, bringing institutional network coverage to all the major buildings onsite. We also enhanced our fiber network to improve high-speed connections as the demand for bandwidth skyrocketed. In response to specific requests to provide coverage in nonpublic working areas to support Facilities operations, we installed newer Wi-Fi access points in several engineering rooms and tunnel locations. With the network expanded and speed improved, we upgraded our Wi-Fi network access to SafeConnect to simplify access and maintain a secure network. SafeConnect is a network registration system and security compliance tool that allows DOIT to identify and grant network access to all authorized users quickly and efficiently. SafeConnect ensures that our users have the fastest possible browsing experience while connected to Dumbarton Oaks’ high-speed network.

DOIT Help Desk resolved more than 1,100 service desk assistance request tickets and completed over 150 audiovisual service setups. Our help desk services began the transformation from mostly response-based IT support to proactively managing customers’ desktop computing devices and providing outreach and onboarding in small groups. This year we started using the KACE K2000 Deployment Appliance. This system streamlines how we provision systems, with capabilities for inventory assessment, OS and image deployment, user state migration, system configuration, application installation, and recovery. This helped us achieve successful and efficient deployment of computer systems, especially during our computer refresh time.
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Mathilda van Es, Associate Dean for Administration for Arts and Humanities, Ex Officio
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Giles Constable, Director, 1977–1984
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Buildings
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Melissa Brizer, Greenhouse Specialist
Rigoberto Castellon, Crew leader
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Colin Kelly, Museum Exhibit Technician
Joseph Mills, Photographer
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