Upcoming Events

Rethinking Empire
April 21–22, 2017 | Byzantine Studies Symposium
What does it mean to call Byzantium an empire? This symposium will redefine conceptions of empire and imperialism by framing Byzantium’s identity in the wider contexts supplied by new research and exploring questions of territoriality, ethnic diversity, and core and periphery. Visit our website for more information and to RSVP.

Landscapes of Pre-Industrial Cities
May 5–6, 2017 | Garden and Landscape Studies Symposium
The “urban landscape” is often seen as a historically late development. This symposium will reevaluate these views by investigating the various features of contemporary urban landscapes that can also be found in pre-industrial contexts in different time periods and across the globe. This event is full; add your name to the waiting list.

European Month of Culture at Dumbarton Oaks
May 21, 2017
Dumbarton Oaks will celebrate the European Month of Culture with a concert and open house. Violinist Keir GoGwilt and composer Matthew Aucoin on piano will premiere a new work by Aucoin, Its Own Accord. The museum, rare book library, and historic main house will be open, with special tours from fellows and curators. A reception will take place in the Orangery. Visit our website for more information; the concert is full, but RSVPs for the reception are welcome.
Garden and Landscape Studies Graduate Workshop

Dumbarton Oaks will offer an intensive three-week Garden and Landscape Studies Graduate Workshop between June 5 and 23, 2017. Applicants can be doctoral candidates in early or advanced stages of writing dissertations, current MLA candidates, or recent recipients of MLA degrees. Visit our website to find out more information; applications are due April 18.

Renovation of the Gardens

The gardens will be closed to the public from July 10, 2017, to March 15, 2018. During this time, we will undertake large-scale improvements to the gardens’ water-supply network as well as enhancement of stormwater management throughout the property. Visit our website for more information.

Mapping Cultural Philanthropy

Dumbarton Oaks is excited to announce the Mapping Cultural Philanthropy project. The project profiles noteworthy donors and cultural institutions in the nation’s capital and investigates the founding philosophies that shaped some of D.C.’s greatest collections. Find out more on our website.

Museum Reopening

The museum will reopen on April 25, 2017. After extensive renovations, we welcome visitors to enjoy our galleries and new temporary exhibits (see below).

The museum is open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., except for Mondays and federal holidays. Admission is free. Visit our website for more information.

City Water/City Life

Exhibit Showcases the History of Waterfronts in Urban Design
City Water/City Life, which opens April 25, displays prints from Dumbarton Oaks’ collection of rare books and contemporary photographs to trace the development of water elements in three historic cities—Paris, Amsterdam, and Florence—and their interaction with social and cultural milieus. Visit our website for more information.

Building the Invisible
Mellon Outreach Activates Teens’ Imaginations

Many young people think of urban planning, design, and architecture as fields of study dealing mainly with technical questions. But Dumbarton Oaks and the Mellon Initiative in Urban Landscape Studies are aiming to change that assumption. Mellon postdoctoral fellow Jeanne Haffner is working with students at Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School and the National Building Museum, teaching them how to bring humanistic and artistic questions to bear on their understanding of design and landscape. Read more on our website.

Dumbarton Oaks Brings Education to the Gardens

Tyler fellow Deirdre Moore and postgraduate fellow Nathalie Miraval show students from Hyde-Addison Elementary School a sparrow’s nest under the flowering cherry trees in the gardens. The second-graders, who were previously here in the fall semester of 2016, are learning about biology, sustainability, and the environment over the course of two months.

Fellows in the Spotlight
Catch up with our fellows and their research in our ongoing series:

- Ari Caramanica is a PhD student in anthropology at Harvard University whose research aims to reconstruct agricultural landscape in coastal Peru.
- Michail Kappas is an archaeologist working for the Ephorate of Antiquities of Messenia, Greece. His talk detailed the research and restoration work he has undertaken in the village of Kastania.
- Ryan Clasby, who has worked as an adjunct professor at the University of Missouri–St. Louis, studies the evidence of long-distance interregional trade between Andean and Amazonian cultures in the Formative Period.
- Anna Leone, a reader in the Department of Archaeology at Durham University, analyzes the submerged site of Dibsi Faraj through the lens of a rediscovered field archive.

Read similar conversations with other current fellows on our website.

**From the Archives**

**New Acquisition of Gardener Photographs**

In this month’s post, archivist James Carder writes about a set of fourteen photograph negatives recently donated by Richard Amt, the staff photographer at Dumbarton Oaks between 1963 and 1974. The images capture the garden staff engaged in their work or posing at familiar sites. Read more and view a sample of photographs on our website.

**Now on View**

Discover Dumbarton Oaks’ collections in a series of special exhibitions, beginning April 25.

- **Women in Art, 1850–1910** examines the fashionably dressed, urban woman of works collected by the Blisses, who admired the art of the Impressionists.
- **Ancient Bronzes in the Dumbarton Oaks Collections** highlights the and its techniques, and the use and meaning of ancient works in bronze.
- **Imagining the Empress: Theodora in Popular Culture, 1882–1922** shows captured the public imagination at the end of the nineteenth century.

Collecting Textiles features late Roman and early Byzantine hangings and curtains alongside Andean looped and woven garments.

City Water/City Life traces the development of water elements in three historic cities and their interaction with social and cultural milieus.