

## Managing emotion: passions, emotions, affects and imaginings in Byzantium

Colloquium: 12-13 December 2014

Byzantinists were early into the field of the study of emotion with Henry Maguire's ground-breaking article on sorrow, published in 1977. But since then classicists and western medievalists have developed new ways of understanding how emotional communities work and where the ancients' concepts of emotion differ from our own. It is time perhaps to celebrate Maguire's work, but also to look at what is distinctive about Byzantine emotion. We should like to encourage speakers to focus on a single emotion and to use it as a vantage point to investigate central aspects of the Byzantine worldview. We want to look at emotions as both cognitive and relational processes. Our focus is not only the construction of emotions with respect to perception and cognition; we are also interested in how emotions were communicated and exchanged across broad (multi)linguistic, political and social boundaries. We expect to receive comment from classics, western medieval studies, philosophy and psychology. The comparative stance will help us disclose what is peculiar to the Byzantine 'emotional constellation'. Priorities are twofold: to arrive at an understanding of what the Byzantines thought of as emotions and to comprehend how theory shaped their appraisal of reality.

### Friday

2.00: Coffee

2.30: Welcomes

2.45: Introduction:

3.00: Martin Hinterberger (Cyprus): *Passions from the classical world to the modern Greek world: the case of phthonos and zelotypia*

3.30: Georgia Frank (Colgate University) *Managing affect through rhetoric: the case of pity*

4.00 Discussion

4.30: Tea

5.00: Henry Maguire (Johns Hopkins emeritus): *The emotions in Byzantine art*

7.00 for 7.30: Drinks and dinner

### Saturday

9.30: Andrew Crislip (Virginia Commonwealth University): *The ascetic construction and performance of emotions: lype and akedia*

10.00: Maria Doerfler (Duke): *Emotional communities and the loss of an individual: the case of grief*

10.30: Discussion

11.00: Coffee

11.30: Niki Tsironis (Athens): *Gendered emotions: the case of storge*

12.00: Floris Bernard (Ghent): *Poetry in emotion: the case of anger*

12.30: Discussion

1.00: Lunch

2.30: Coffee

3.00: Sergei Ivanov (Moscow): *Emotions and power in Byzantium: the case of fear*

3.30: Dimiter Angelov (Harvard): *Emotions and philosophical writing: the case of charmolupe*

4.00: Discussion

4.30: Tea

5.00: Commentary, final discussion, conclusion

6.00: Prosecco in the Byzantine courtyard