

# The Holy Apostles

Spring Symposium 2015

Symposiarchs: Margaret Mullett and Robert Ousterhout

In the early years of Dumbarton Oaks, one of the research projects initiated by A.M. Friend was devoted to the lost church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople. It was an early humanities collaboration of a literary scholar (Glanville Downey), an architectural historian (Paul Underwood) and an art historian (A.M. Friend), and it represented an attempt to reconstruct a lost building. A three-volume publication was envisaged, but a symposium was also held on the subject in which major scholars were involved. It took place in 1948 with Sirarpie der Nersessian as symposiarch, and Friend gave two lectures on the reconstruction of the lost mosaic cycle; Paul A. Underwood spoke about the architecture; Der Nersessian herself gave two lectures on mosaics, while Glanville Downey spoke about the literary texts, Milton Anastos about imperial theology, and Francis Dvornik on the Patriarch Photios. As Kurt Weitzmann summarized, "It was a very unified program, demonstrating how Friend had been able to get every scholar at Dumbarton Oaks involved in his project."

Unlike the projects on Norman Sicily or on Venice, the results of the Holy Apostles initiative were never published, nor was the 1948 symposium. Some materials survive in ICFA from that project, also unpublished. Nevertheless, the church of the Holy Apostles continues to attract scholarly attention from philologists, historians and art historians. In the seventy-fifth year of Byzantine Studies at Dumbarton Oaks, a symposium devoted to the church of the Holy Apostles will complete the task of those early years by assessing the significance of the church, its milieu and its legacy.

## Friday

8.30 Coffee on the Music Room Terrace

9.00: Welcomes

### I: DUMBARTON OAKS AND THE HOLY APOSTLES

9.15: *Introduction: Holy Apostles, Symposium and Project*: Margaret Mullett (Dumbarton Oaks)

9.30: *Visualization Then and Now: The Early Days of Dumbarton Oaks and the Art Historical Academy in the 1940s and 1950s*: Robert Nelson (Yale University and CASVA) and James Carder (Dumbarton Oaks)

10.15: Discussion and Coffee

## **II: FOUNDATIONS**

11.00: *The Apostoleion of Constantine: Architectural Form, Development, and Meaning*: Mark J. Johnson (Brigham Young University)

11.45: *The Justinianic Church and Paul Underwood's Reconstruction*: Slobodan Curcic (Princeton, emeritus)

12.30: Discussion

12.45: Luncheon

## **III: LITERATURE AND MEMORY**

2.00: *Apostolic Memory: The Literature of Early Christianity in Byzantium*: Scott Johnson (Georgetown and DO)

2.45: *From Heretical Accounts to Imperially Supported Encomia: Apostle Acts in a Time of Rewriting* Christian Høgel (University of Southern Denmark)

3.30: Tea

4.00: *Apostolic Succession and Byzantine Theology*: George Demacopoulos (Fordham University)

4.45: Discussion

5.30-7.30: Drinks on the Green Terrace

## **Saturday**

9.00: Coffee on the Music Room Terrace

## **IV: THE MIDDLE BYZANTINE HOLY APOSTLES, 1, THE NINTH AND TENTH CENTURIES**

9.30: *Around and About the Holy Apostles*: Paul Magdalino (Koç University)

10.15 Coffee

10.45: *Constantine Rhodios and his Contemporaries*: Floris Bernard (University of Ghent)

11.30: *Constantine Rhodios and the Church of the Holy Apostles*: Liz James (University of Sussex)

12.15: Discussion

12.45: Luncheon

**V: THE MIDDLE BYZANTINE HOLY APOSTLES, 2, THE KOMNENIAN ERA**

2.00: *Nicholas Mesarites and his Contemporaries*: Ruth Macrides (University of Birmingham)

2.45: *Inside and Outside the Holy Apostles with Nicholas Mesarites*: Henry Maguire (Johns Hopkins emeritus)

3.30 Tea

4.00: *The Church of the Holy Apostles and its Place in Byzantine Architecture*: Robert Ousterhout (University of Pennsylvania)

4.45: Discussion

7.00 for 7.30: Speakers' Dinner

**Sunday**

**VI: LEGACIES**

9.30: Coffee on the Music Room Terrace

10.00: *Gennadios Scholarios and the Patriarchate*: Nevra Necipoğlu (Boğaziçi University)

10.45: *Fatih Cami*: Julian Raby (Freer-Sackler Gallery, DC)

11.30: Discussion and Coffee

12.00: *Conclusions*: Robert Ousterhout (University of Pennsylvania)