



ΧΡΗΣΤΙΑΝΙΚΗ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ / CHRISTIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF BYZANTINE
AND POST-BYZANTINE ARCHAEOLOGY AND ART, FOUNDED IN 1884

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C I R C U L A R

41st Symposium on Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Archaeology and Art of the Christian Archaeological Society

Athens, May 27-29, 2022

Deadline for Submissions: Friday, 11th of March 2022

Organizing and Scientific Committee:

Ioanna Bitha, Anastasia Drandaki, Georgios Pallis,
Anastassios Antonaras, and Melina Paisidou

The Board of the Christian Archaeological Society (XAE/ChAE) announces the *41st Symposium on Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Archaeology and Art of the Christian Archaeological Society*, which will be held in Athens between May 27-29, 2022, hopefully in person. Please consult the following information on the specific topic and the conditions for participating in the Symposium.

**One-day thematic conference of the *41st Symposium of the ChAE*
'Refugee Heirlooms from Asia Minor, Pontus and Eastern Thrace'**

The special thematic one-day conference covering one of the three days of the *41st Symposium of the ChAE* commemorates the centenary of the Asia Minor Disaster (1922) which followed the Greco-Turkish War of 1919-1922. This event will focus on the study of refugee heirlooms from Asia Minor, Pontus and Eastern Thrace.

The Treaty of Lausanne (1923), which imposed the compulsory exchange of populations between Greece and Turkey on the basis of their religious identity,

provided also for the exchange of their movable community property, i.e. ecclesiastical works and documents from their churches. These objects –icons, manuscripts, works of ecclesiastical silversmithing, and gold embroidery, printed liturgical books, etc.– followed a fate commensurate with the people. Sometimes in a coordinated way, often in disorderly flight, under conditions of violence and panic, the exchanged church relics arrived in Athens. They were stored and recorded, to be then distributed in various churches over Greek territory –which became the new rallying points for the uprooted ‘Romioi’. At the same time, some of these ecclesiastical works, those considered of special archaeological and artistic value, were divested of their liturgical provenance and transformed into sacred historical relics and as such were distributed among the national museums (the Byzantine and Christian Museum, the Benaki Museum, the Museum of Greek Folk Art). Academic societies, special initiatives, museum studies, and official and private registers have collected and highlighted much of this valuable refugee material, combining archaeological study with new research tools, such as oral history.

Following a series of exhibitions dedicated to refugee heirlooms organized over the last 40 years in Greece and abroad, this year’s *Symposium of the ChAE* aims to expand and further enrich this field of research, recognizing the particular character of the studies devoted to the materiality of the refugee experience within the special historical conditions that shaped it, especially within the current international academic environment, where the field of Refugees Studies is developing apace.

The aim of the special theme of the three-day Symposium is to approach anew, publicize, and interpret the rich stock of refugee heirlooms, with an emphasis on the artworks themselves, whether of ecclesiastical or secular nature. Brought by the refugees from their cherished homelands, these objects, which date from Byzantine times to the early 20th century, are often connected with the local art of each region, or associated with productions from other regions.

Themes to be addressed during the one-day conference of the three-day *Symposium of the ChAE* may include:

- Chronicling of the rescue of refugee heirlooms (places of departure, transport, final destinations)
- The museumification of these heirlooms and their promotion in the new places, collections, museums

- Epigraphic material of whatever kind with information on donors, sponsors, painters, scribes, professional guilds
- Portable icons: pilgrimage, processional, despotic, palladium, other ensembles, icons of private piety. Use, iconographic and stylistic issues, artistic interactions
- Templa/iconostasis, church furniture, wood carvings
- Codes, incunabula, books
- Fabrics
- Minor art
- Material culture, secular art

Apart from extended papers assigned to specialists, thematically relevant communications of 15 minutes' duration will be presented on the same day.

The language of the Symposium is Greek.

Speakers from abroad may deliver their papers in English or French.

It is reminded that papers must be original and constitute a substantial contribution to scholarship. They must not exceed 15 minutes in length. Participants can deliver only one paper, even if this is in collaboration with other speaker(s). The subjects of communications should fall within the framework of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Archaeology and Art. However, due to the special theme of the *41st Symposium of the ChAE*, communications related to the special theme may cover the period of the modern era up to 1922.

Due to the large number of papers submitted for the annual *Symposium of the ChAE*, the Board encourages all those planning to present work involving excavations, restoration projects, and the conservation of art works and monuments, to consider presenting their contributions in the form of posters. Participants will assume responsibility for creating and printing their posters (60×85 cm. [A1]), while their display in a specially designed location will be the responsibility of the Committee. Posters should be submitted to the Committee on the morning preceding the opening of the Symposium. During the Symposium participants with posters will be allotted time to present their contributions to the public.

Please indicate upon submission, whether the proposed paper concerns (a) free communications or is connected with the special theme of the one-day conference of the Symposium, and (b) if it will be delivered orally or in poster form.

As in previous Symposia, the summaries of contributions will be published. The resulting publication has the character of a preliminary presentation. The summaries must include essential information regarding subject, content, and originality of the paper. Those interested are requested to send by e-mail a summary of their proposed contribution (major paper, communication, poster presentation), without footnotes or bibliography, which can only include small line drawings, which must be submitted in digital form (please follow the attached example).

The Board of the Christian Archaeological Society, and especially the Organizing and Scientific Committee of the *41st Symposium of the ChAE* reserve the right to propose changes or reject summaries which:

- do not deal with the fields of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine archaeology and art. However, especially this year, due to the theme of the one-day conference, communications related to the one-day conference referred to above may cover the modern era period until 1922
- do not meet the standards of originality and contribution to scholarship
- include personal attacks
- are submitted after the deadline

To participate in the *41st Symposium of the ChAE*, applications either for free announcement or within the context of the special theme of the Conference must be submitted, along with the summaries, by **Friday, March 11, 2022** to the ChAE e-mail: chae.secretary@gmail.com

On behalf of the Board of the Christian Archaeological Society

The President
Dr Ioanna Bitha, RCBP-BA|AA

The General Secretary
Assistant Prof. Georgios Pallis, NKUA

INFORMATION

Secretariat of the ChAE Symposium:

Christian Archaeological Society, c/o Byzantine and Christian Museum, Mrs Sophia Giannioti, office days: Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00-14:00, tel.: + 30 213 213 9556.

The booklet with the program and the summaries of the papers and posters will be priced at 15€.

Annual membership of the Christian Archaeological Society for the year 2022 is 30€. Payment of fees for the current or previous years can be made during the Symposium, however electronic payments into the following accounts are encouraged:

National Bank of Greece: IBAN GR510110080000008067565229.

Alpha Bank: IBAN GR6701401150115002320011728.

(Beneficiary: Christian Archaeological Society).

During the Symposium, ChAE publications will be made available at a 40% discount.

For those who have settled their membership fees (including the current year) the discount will be 50%.

To subscribe to the electronic mailing list of the Christian Archaeological Society, please send your request to: chae.secretary@gmail.com.