



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

Farewell to Cyril A. Mango



(1928-2021)

It is with great sadness that the Christian Archaeological Society announces to its members and friends the loss, on the 8th of February 2021, of the eminent Byzantinist Cyril Alexander Mango, honorary member of the Society since 2013.

Cyril Mango was born on the 14th of April 1928, in Constantinople the son of a Greek father and a Russian mother and grew up in the multicultural environment of this city. He completed his university studies in Scotland (Classical Studies, University of St. Andrews, 1949), and his postgraduate studies in France, where he defended his doctoral dissertation on Byzantine history in Paris (Université de Paris-Sorbonne, 1953).

He began his long and multifaceted career in the United States of America, first at the Dumbarton Oaks Byzantine Center, Harvard University, Washington DC (1955-1963 and 1968-1973), and then at the University of California, Berkeley (1960-1961). He continued his career in England, initially in London as the Koraes Professor of Modern Greek and Byzantine History, Language and Literature at King's College, University of London (1963-1966) and later in Oxford as the Bywater and Sotheby's Professor of Byzantine and Modern Greek at Oxford University (1973-1995). Cyril Mango, a polymath polyglot and inspiring teacher, a tireless scholar and author, was fortunate to have a large number of dedicated and renowned students today who promote Byzantine studies in Europe and in the United States.

Sharing his scientific interests between history, philology, epigraphy, archaeology, and art history, he focused on the study of his hometown, Constantinople, its monuments, and topography, while his other studies are dedicated to Cyprus and Syria. His work comprises more than 200 articles and monographs distinguished for their deep and multifaceted knowledge of the sources and the monuments, their critical and synthetic spirit. Among them are his studies on the mosaics of Hagia Sophia (*Mosaics of St. Sophia at Istanbul*, 1962), the sources of Byzantine art (*The Art of Byzantine Empire: Sources and Documents, 312-1453*, 1972), Byzantine architecture (*Byzantine Architecture* 1976), the topography of Constantinople (*Le développement urbain de Constantinople IVe - VIIe siècles*, 1985 and *Studies on Constantinople*, 1993), as well as his fundamental composition for Byzantine culture (*Byzantium: The Empire of New Rome*, 1980).

His monographs also include the works: *The Homilies of Photius, Patriarch of Constantinople* (1958), *The Brazen House. A Study of the Vestibule of the Imperial Palace of Constantinople* (1959), *Treasures of Turkey: The earliest civilizations of Anatolia, Byzantium, the Islamic Period* (in collaboration with Ekrem Akurgal and Richard Ettinghausen, 1966), *Constantinople: City on the Golden Horn* (with David Jacobs, 1969), *Byzantium and Its Image: History and Culture of the Byzantine Empire and its Heritage* (1984), *Nikephoros, Patriarch of Constantinople: Short History* (1992), *The Correspondence of Ignatios the Deacon* (with the collaboration of Stefanos Efthymiadis, 1997), *The Chronicle of Theophanes Confessor: Byzantine and Near Eastern History, AD 284-813* (in collaboration with Geoffrey Greatrex and Roger Scott, 1997), *Hagia Sophia: A Vision for Empires* (with photographer Ahmet Ertuğ, 1997), *Chora: The Scroll of Heaven* (with photographer Ahmet Ertuğ, 2000). He was also a member of the scientific committee of *The Oxford History of Byzantium* (2002).

Cyril Mango was a member of the British Academy and the Society of Antiquaries.

It was recently announced that he donated his valuable library to the Gennadius Library.

The Christian Archaeological Society extends its heartfelt condolences to his wife Marlia Mundell Mango, a Byzantinist scholar, and to his two daughters.