FEMALE FOUNDERS

Committee
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Diana Schludermann
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Manuela Sommeregger
Ulrike Unterweger
Gabriele Walzhofer
Johanna Weiß
This colloquium will address various issues associated with patronage in Byzantium and neighbouring states, through the perspective of gender. We shall look at processes of Stiftung from the founding of a monastery through the building of a church to the production of a monumental programme or church furniture or icons or manuscripts or ivories or items of jewellery. We are particularly interested in ‘kleine Stiftungen’, the gifts without which society and the church could not function--like bread and light. We shall look at the relationship of different processes: at patronage and exchange as suggested by Rico Franses nearly twenty years ago, at foundation, refoundation and donation, at philanthropy and euergetism. We shall consider the differences between the patronage of art and of literature, and of the role of personal patronage. We shall look at the processes in monasteries, the secular church and the world. We shall look at the clues for patronage and how far they can lead us: literary accounts of acts of patronage, visual depictions of the act of donation, dedications, portraiture, inscriptions, epigrams and monograms. We shall consider whether commission always amounts to patronage and vice versa. Above all we shall look at the role of women and the nature of female patronage, the exercise of female economic power, and the particular nature of ‘matronage’ as suggested by Leslie Brubaker. We are anxious that examples should be brought to bear on these issues rather than simply demonstrating an act of female founding. We shall deal with Rome, the Holy Land, Cappadocia, Mt Athos, Skyros, Rus, the kingdom of Cilicia, Macedonia, Zeta, Thessalonike, and Siena as well as Constantinople. We shall focus on objects in Vienna: the Dioskorides, ivories and other manuscripts, and there will be the opportunity to view these with Michael Grünbart in the National Library during the colloquium, as well as papyri with special references to female literacy curated and introduced by Cornelia Römer. There will be parties, poster and book displays, and an expedition on the Female Founders Schlumberger-Straßenbahn to a Heurigen to try the new wine. We look forward to seeing you all.
PROGRAMME

Tuesday 23 September

12.30
Opening and introduction:
Begrüßung durch den Dekan der Historisch-Kulturwissenschaftlichen Fakultät der Universität Wien
Female Founders - the project

Lioba Theis (Wien)

13.00-15.15 Session I: EARLY CENTURIES

Chair: Marianne Klemun (Wien)
The ‘Ariadne’ ivories: Leonian empresses revisited

Liz James (Sussex)
The ‘Ariadne’ ivories: Leonian empresses revisited

Discussion
Marion Meyer (Wien)
Visibility of female founders.
The case of ancient Greece
Eudokia and Jerusalem

Konstantin Klein (Cambridge, Mass.)
The image of Christ at the Latomos monastery in Thessalonike

Christine Stephan-Kaissis (Thessalonike)

Cornelia Römer (Wien)
Female donation in eighth-century Egypt

15.15-16.00 Tea

16.00-18.00 Session II: STUDENT PAPERS AND POSTERS

Chair: Galina Fingarova (Wien)
Helena als Metapher
The voice of Theodora
Die Stifterinnentätigkeit der Kaiserin Sophia
Poster Presentation

Adriana Kapsreiter (Wien)

Ulrike Unterweger (Wien)

Judith Radlegger (Wien)

Sylvie Herl (Wien)

Fani Gargova (Wien)

Discussion

18.00-19.30 Drinks

19.30
Lecture:
Still in search of Byzantine women, twenty-five years on

Judith Herrin (London)

21.00 Buffet
Wednesday 24 September

09.00-11.00  **Session III: SANCTITY AND STIFTUNG**

Chair: Leena Mari Peltomaa (Wien)

Stavroula Constantinou (Cyprus)  
Male constructions of female authorities: identity and spiritual power in the Lives of monastic foundresses

Discussion

Marlena Whiting (Oxford)  
Elite women in the Holy Land in late antiquity

Andrea Olsen (Baltimore)  
Early Byzantine medallions: piety and patronage

Eirene Panou (Birmingham)  
Patronage in the Patria, matronage and maternity

Discussion

11.00-11.30  **Kaffeepause**

11.30-13.30  **Session IV: DONORS AND DONATION**

Chair: Matthew Savage (Wien)

Linda Safran (Toronto)  
*Deconstructing donors*

Discussion

Tania Kambourova (Paris)  
Le don de l’église: une affaire de couple?

Eka Tchkoidze (Tbilisi)  
Royal female donors to Iviron C11-13

Nota Karamaouna (Paris), Nilüfer Peker (Ankara), B. Tolga Uyar (Paris)  
Female donors in thirteenth-century wall-paintings in Cappadocia

Discussion

13.30-14.30  **Mittagspause**
Wednesday 24 September

Nachmittag

14.30-16.30  **Session V: PROVINCIAL PATRONAGE**

Chair: Marion Meyer (Wien)

Sharon Gerstel (Los Angeles) and Sophia Kalopissi-Verti (Athenai)

*Some female founders in the village: the Widow’s Tale*

Discussion

Leonora Neville (Washington DC)

*The adventures of a provincial female founder: Glykeria and the rhetoric of female weakness*

Joanna Rapti (Paris)

*Keran, queen of Armenians, and female patronage in the kingdom of Cilicia*

Saska Bogevska (Paris)

*Notes on female piety in the hermitages of Ochrid and Prespa*

Discussion

16.30-17.00  **Tea**

17.00-18.30  **Session VI: WOMEN AND LITERARY PATRONAGE**

Chair: Michael Grünbart (Wien und Münster)

Elizabeth Jeffreys (Oxford)

*The sevastokratorissa Eirene as patron*

Discussion

Eric Limousin (Lorient)

*A la recherche de la femme politique: le patronage des impératrices chez Michel Psellos*

Alexandra Vukovitch (Paris)

*The epistles of princess Jelena Balsic: an example of the role of noblewomen as patrons in late medieval Zeta*

Discussion

19.00  **Schlumberger-Straßenbahn in den Wiener Wald**
Thursday 25 September

09.00-11.00  **Session VII: COMMISSIONS AND COMMISSIONERS**

Chair: Margaret Mullett (Wien und Belfast)

Alice-Mary Talbot (Washington DC)  
*Female patronage in the Palaiologan era: icons, minor arts and manuscripts*

**Discussion**

Sarah Brooks (Harrisonburg, VA)  
*Women as tomb patrons and subjects in the Palaiologan period*

Florin Leonte (Budapest)  
*A late Byzantine patroness and counsellor: Helena Kantakouzene Palaiologina*

Alexander Riehle (München)  
*Theodora Raoulaina als Stifterin und Patronin*

**Discussion**

11.00-11.30  **Kaffeepause**

11.30-13.30  **Session VIII: FOUNDING MONASTERIES**

Chair: Lioba Theis (Wien)

Niels Gaul (Budapest)  
*The Lincoln College Typikon and its siblings: books and writing in late Byzantine convents*

**Discussion**

Anna Michalowska (Wien)  
*Klostergründungen russischer Fürstinenn im 13. Jahrhundert*

Ekaterini Mitsiou (Wien)  
*Die Gründung der Doppelküster in Byzanz*

Anastasios Tantsis (Thessalonike)  
*Galleries in monastic churches founded by women and their social implications*

**Discussion**
Nachmittag

13.30 Lunchpaket und
Besuch der Nationalbibliothek

 Führung: Byzantinische Handschriften
Michael Grünbart (Wien und Münster)

 Führung: Ägyptische Klosterbibliotheken/Papyri
Cornelia Römer (Wien)

14.00 Gruppe 1: Handschriften Gruppe 2: Papyri
15.00 Gruppe 2: Handschriften Gruppe 1: Papyri

16.30-17.00 Tea

17.00-19.00 Session IX: PHILANTHROPY, PIETY AND POLITICS

Chair: Karin Krause (Basel und Wien)

Dennis Stathakopoulos (London) I seek not my own: Is there a female mode of charity?

Panagiotis Fragkiadakis (Ioannina) Female imperial donations and donors during the Arsenite schism (1261-1310)

Stefania Gerevini (London) Double lives and hidden patrons: a Byzantine set of relics, Siena and imperial women in late Byzantium

Petra Melichar (Leuven) The sins of female founders in late Byzantium

19.00 Closing remarks:
Margaret Mullett (Wien und Belfast): The dynamics of foundation

19:30 PARTY
LIST OF SPEAKERS

Saska Bogevska (Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris)
Sarah Brooks (James Madison University, Harrisonburg)
Stavroula Constantinou (University of Cyprus)
Panagiotis Fragkiadakis (University of Ioannina)
Fani Gargova (University of Vienna)
Niels Gaul (Central European University, Budapest)
Stefania Gerevini (Courtauld Institute of Art, London)
Sharon Gerstel (University of California Los Angeles)
Sylvie Herl (University of Vienna)
Judith Herrin (King’s College London)
Liz James (University of Sussex)
Elizabeth Jeffreys (Oxford University)
Sofia Kalopissi-Verti (University of Athens)
Tania Kambourova (Sorbonne - École Pratique des Hautes Études Paris)
Adriana Kapsreiter (University of Vienna)
Nota Karamaouna (Sorbonne - École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris)
Konstantin Klein (Harvard University)
Eric Limousin (Poitiers / Lorient)
Florin Leonte (Central European University, Budapest)
Petra Melichar (Leuven / Brno)
Marion Meyer (University of Vienna)
Anna Michalowska (University of Vienna)
Ekaterini Mitsiou (University of Vienna)
Leonora Neville (Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.)
Andrea Olsen (Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore)
Eirini Panou (University of Birmingham)
Nilüfer Peker (Başkent Üniversitesi, Ankara)
Judith Radlegger (University of Vienna)
Joanna Rapti (Sorbonne - École pratique des Hautes Études Paris / Aix-en-Provence)
Alexander Riehle (LMU-Munich)
Cornelia Römer (Austrian National Library / University of Vienna)
Linda Safran (University of Toronto)
Dennis Stathakopoulos (King’s College London)
Christine Stephan-Kaissis (Thessaloniki)
Alice-Mary Talbot (Dumbarton Oaks - Washington, D.C.)
Anastasios Tantsis (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki)
Eka Tschkoidze (Princeton / Tbilisi)
Ulrike Unterweger (University of Vienna)
B. Tolga Uyar (Panthéon-Sorbonne, Paris)
Alexandra Vukovitsch (École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris)
Marlene Whiting (Lincoln College, Oxford)