



Byzantine Animals Between Materiality and Fantasy

International Conference
Katowice, 22.-23.6.2023



Program

Thursday, 22.6.2023

9:00-9:30 Opening, Introduction & Organization
Jan Kucharski, Przemysław Marciniak, Tristan Schmidt

Animality in Byzantium. Theory now and then.

9:30-10:00 Preliminary considerations on the relationship between humans and non-human animals in Byzantium
Stavros Lazaris
(online)

10:00-10:30 From Alexandria to Byzantium: the evolution of zoological handbooks
Arnaud Zucker

10:30-11:00 Break

Social Issues

11:00-11:30 Stuttering Swallows: Disability & Animality in Byzantine Sources
Maroula Perisanidi
(online)

11:30-12:00 Social Roles and Literary Characterization in Late Byzantine Animal Poems
Florin Leonte
(online)

12:00-13:00 Lunchbreak

Hunting and Spectacle

13:00-13:30 From arena sands to ivory carvings: Animal hunts as consular self-representation
Konstanze Schiemann

13:30-14:00 The Advertising and Spread of Hunting Cheetahs in the Medieval Mediterranean and their Relationship with Imitatio Imperii

Evan Schultheis

(online)

14:00-14:15 Break

Animals in Art

14:15-14:45 Good or Evil, Sacred or Mundane, Symbolic or Meaningless? Some Notes on Zoomorphic Representations in Byzantine Sculpture

Roberta Flaminio

(online)

14:45-15:15 The sounds of coexistence and exclusion: Animals in Byzantine ekphrases

Paroma Chatterjee

(online)

15:15-15:30 Break

Epikindyna pteroenta

15:30-16:00 Being Consumed by Insects: Punishment and Horror in Byzantium

Ayşenur Mulla

16:00-16:30 Animals in the Miracles of Thekla

Linda Honey

(online)

16:30-17:00 Break

Keynote lecture

17:00-18:00 Voice's manifold subject formation: Isaac of Antioch's parrot memra

Glenn Peers

Friday, 23.6.2023

Horses

9:00-9:30 The Horse in the Hippodrome: a Fixture, an Athlete or an Agent?

Anastassija Ropa/Alexia Stamouli

9:30-10:00 Weighing the Evidence – Conjectures on the demands made of baggage animals in middle Byzantine era military use

Timothy Dawson

10:00-10:30 Break

Household animals

10:30 – 11:00 Byzantine Pigs

Michael Decker

(online)

11:00-11:30 They steal my food and keep me up all night: racy cats and thieving mice during the Late Byzantine era

Kalliope Mavrommati

11:30-12:00 Break

Between Materiality and Fantasy

12:00 – 13:00 Fantastic beasts and where to find them: Byzantine hybrids

Margaret Mullett

13:00-13:30 Final discussion

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