

CONVIVIUM

Exchanges and Interactions in the Arts of Medieval
Europe, Byzantium, and the Mediterranean
Seminarium Kondakovianum, Series Nova



UNIVERSITÉ DE LAUSANNE
• ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF
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CONVIVIUM IV/2/2017

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Europe, Byzantium, and the Mediterranean

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with the collaboration of **Zuzana Frantová**

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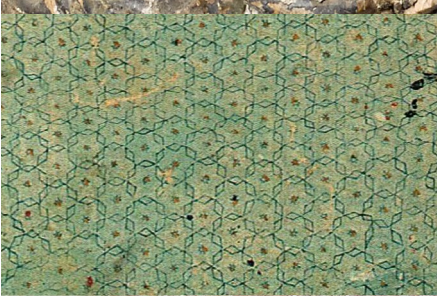
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Clario Di Fabio & Serena Romano

This miscellaneous issue of *Convivium* well represents the various horizons and research lines of the magazine. The papers, presented here by scholars of different nationalities and educational backgrounds, cover diverse artistic contexts and vary in time and space.

Chiara Croci deals with an issue in Early Christian art, the neglected mosaics of the Naples Baptistery, analyzing them in terms of both style and technique, while Francesco Caputummino examines the origins of Cistercian architecture in Sicily. For the first time in the history of this young magazine, a prominent place is given to French art, with a group of papers dedicated to the Romanesque wooden sculpture of Auvergne (Francesca Girelli) and to the Gothic sculpture of Reims (Clario Di Fabio and Gili Shalom) respectively. Moreover, Michele Tomasi proposes a new historiographic approach to the well-known theme of French “Court Art” in the age of Louis IX and Nathalie Roman draws fresh attention to the miniature painting of Jean Pucelle and his *entourage*. Finally, two papers look at Eastern Europe, concentrating on unusual areas of study, namely Ottoman manuscripts (Kristýna Rendlová) and symbolism in fabrics produced by a mixed Ottoman-Byzantine culture (Nikolaos Vryzidis).

This issue is marked by a variety of topics consistent with the editorial policy of the magazine and its methodological orientation; at the same time, this variety obviously reflects some of the interests and passions of the curators.

A new element must be noted, as it is an innovation in the structure of the magazine. This issue introduces a short column called “Chronicle & Debates”. It addresses current research and recent events dealing with history of art in general: discoveries, unpublished news, ongoing restorations, *trouvailles* – which are worth noting, albeit briefly, as they are still in progress. This column is inaugurated here with two contributions: a rich record by several authors, a real “scoop” presenting the outcome of a restoration and the results of its diagnostic analysis (Francesca Dell’Acqua, Ivan Foletti, Vincenzo Gheroldi, Beatrice Leal, Sara Marazzani and John Mitchell), and a new and fresh contribution by Vladimir Agrigoroaei about the famous St Stephen’s Chapel in Westminster.

This time, the focus of the column is on “Chronicle”, but the aim is to give space in the future to real-time “Debates” on different subjects as well. We will address questions of method, which were objects of interest until a few decades ago in European and American art magazines, but now are quite rare. This editorial will also be an invitation to discuss these fascinating problems.

