



13-15 March, 2024  
Department of History of Art  
Department of Archaeology



## Production, Transmission & Interpretation

An interdisciplinary conference on Islamic Art, Architecture and Archaeology

### Funded by

The UoY History of Art Research Committee, HRC Collaborative Project Grant,  
WRoCAH Student Led Forum Grant, UoY Public Lectures Fund,  
and the UoY Islamic Art Research Cluster

### with Keynote Lectures by

Dr Mehreen Chida-Razvi, Professor Robert Hillenbrand, and Professor Marcus Milwright

**DAY 1: 13 MARCH, WEDNESDAY** ([Please register here](#))

**Venue: Campus West (Vanbrugh College, Berrick Saul, Borthwick Institute for Archives)**

17:00 – 17:30: **Tea and refreshments**, Department of History of Art Lounge V/N/227

17:30 – 18:30: **Opening keynote**, Tree House BS/104

### **China on display: Ming porcelain in Mughal architecture**

by Dr Mehreen Chida-Razvi  
Deputy Curator & In-House Editor, Khalili Collections  
Associate Editor, International Journal of Islamic Architecture

Chaired by Professor Jason Edwards

18:30 – 19:30: **Curatorial walkthrough: Arts of the Islamic World**, Borthwick Institute

by Dr Richard Piran McClary  
Senior Lecturer in Islamic Art and Architecture, Department of History of Art,  
University of York

**DAY 2: 14 MARCH, THURSDAY** ([Please purchase tickets here](#))

**Venue: Campus West (Berrick Saul Building)**

09:00 – 09:30: **Registration and refreshments**, Berrick Saul Atrium BS/003A

09:30 – 10:45: **Panel 1: Of hinterlands and frontiers**, Tree House BS/104

- A. The contested Site of Mar Behnam – Khidr-Ilyas Monastery: the thirteenth-century hagiographic evolution of a saint  
by Catherine McNally, MIT
- B. Iranian modern aesthetics: sacred water in Persian mythology and *āshūrā* traditions in the case of saqqa-khaneh  
by Pooran Lashini, UT Dallas
- C. Islamic occupational and exploitation strategies in the hinterland of the middle Euphrates valley and central-eastern Sicily (6th-10th centuries)  
by Elie Essa Kas Hanna, Pontifical Oriental Institute, Rome

Q&A  
Panel chair: Dr Richard P. McClary

10:45 – 12:30: **Panel 2: Archaeology: reclaiming the Islamic past**, Tree House BS/104

- A. Peripheries in the heartland? The ambiguous status of eastern Arabia in the cultural landscape of Islamic lands, 7 -11th centuries  
by Agnieszka Lic, Institute of Mediterranean and Oriental Cultures, Polish Academy of Sciences
- B. Technical exploration and classification of polychrome plaster decoration in Iranian architecture during the Islamic epoch  
by Sahar Basiri, University of York
- C. The potential reconstruction of Islamic identity and subsistence on the east African coast through isotopic studies  
by Nura Hassan, University of York
- D. Lonely and forlorn? Nakhchivan's Alinja khanqah and its architectural decorations  
by Dr. Ana Marija Grbanovic, KDWT, University of Bamberg

Q&A  
Panel chair: Dr Louise Cooke

12:30 – 13:30: **Lunch**, Berrick Saul Atrium BS/003A

13:30 – 15:15: **Panel 3: Occupation, appropriation, and adaptation**, Tree House BS/104

- A. An Islamic architecture? traditional dwellings in the Pamirs and the Hindu Kush  
by Dr Abdulkamad Iloliev, University of Central Asia, Tajikistan

- B. Bidirectional mobility and paths of artistic diffusion in al-Maghrib al-Aqsa (8th – 13<sup>th</sup> centuries): new archaeological perspectives  
by Dr. Asmae EL KACIMI, INSAP, Rabat, Morocco
- C. Artistic fusion in Isfahan: the evolution of Armenian murals in Vank Cathedral  
by Ahmad Yengimolki, University of York
- D. Development of forms and customs in late antique to early Umayyad bathhouses in Cordoba, Spain  
by Dallin Evans, Rice University

Q&A  
Panel chair: Professor Joanna de Groot

15:15 – 17:00: **Panel 4: New sources, new methods**, Tree House BS/104

- A. Heritage materials as works of art  
by Naureen Ali, Institute of Ismaili Studies
- B. The making of Shia Muslim spaces in Britain (1960s-1970s)  
by Jaffer A. Mirza, King's College
- C. Lessons from late Qajar property ads: unearthing pre-modern architectural and urban subjectivities in Iran  
Kamyar Salavati, University of Exeter
- D. Conditions for the representation of banausic labor in early Arabic poetry  
by David Larsen, NYU

Q&A  
Panel chair: Dr Shazia Jagot

17:00 – 18:15: **Tea and refreshments**, Berrick Saul Atrium BS/003A

Public open lecture ([Please register here](#))

18:15 – 19:30: **Keynote lecture**, Bowland Auditorium BS/005

### **The Islamic fascination with domes**

by Professor Robert Hillenbrand  
Professor Emeritus of Islamic Art, University of Edinburgh  
Honorary Professorial Fellow of Islamic Art, University of St Andrews  
Slade Professor of Fine Art, University of Cambridge  
Honorary Vice President, British Institute of Persian Studies  
Chairman, Academic Council of the Iran Heritage Foundation, London

Chaired by: Professor Marcus Milwright

**DAY 3: 15 MARCH, FRIDAY** ([Please purchase tickets here](#))

**Venue: King's Manor**

09:00 – 09:30: **Registration and refreshments**, Huntingdon Ante Room K/123

09:30 – 11:15: **Panel 5: Travels and transfers**, Huntingdon Room K/122

- A. Mobility, appropriation, and agency: towards an analysis of nineteenth century “shal” production and dissemination in Iran, South Asia and beyond  
by Dr Joanna de Groot, University of York
- B. Transcultural portable art: production, transmission, utilization, and reproduction of Islamic and Chinese turquoise glazed ceramic from the 8th - 13th century  
by Lingyu Qin, University of Nottingham
- C. Animal iconography in Almoravid textiles  
by Miriam Ali de Unzaga, Independent scholar, Spain
- D. Travelling tents: light structures in palace gardens of Khorasan and lower Mesopotamia  
by Dr Safa Mahmoudian, Independent scholar  
Q&A  
Panel chair: Dr Mehreen Chida-Razvi

11:15 – 13:00: **Panel 6: Patterns of patronage**, Huntingdon Room K/122

- A. No more heroes: the conquest of Tunis oil sketch by Peter Paul Rubens, c. 1635  
by Dr Adam Sammut, University of York
- B. Implementing imperial matronage in Mughal architecture: gendered negotiations of frameworks and networks governing construction  
by Parshati Dutta, University of York
- C. Courtly cosmopolitanism and visual culture of the Bengal Nizamat in Murshidabad paintings from early modern Bengal  
by Mrinalini Sil, JNU, India
- D. Geometry, art, and ideology in Fatimid, Zangid and Ayyubid Egypt and Syria  
by Professor Bernard O’Kane, The American University in Cairo  
Q&A  
Panel chair: Professor Jason Edwards

13:00 – 14:00: **Lunch**, Huntingdon Room K/123

14:00 – 15:45: **Panel 7: Islamic arts and ethical concerns**, Huntingdon Room K/122

- A. Reconstructing the past: tracing two dispersed Lajvardina tile corpora  
by Dr Richard Piran McClary, University of York

- B. Echoes of Al-Andalus: tracing the legacy of Hispano-Moresque art in Spanish collections and the expanding canvases of the art market  
by Sophie Howell, Chiswick Auctions
- C. Corpses as artifacts: the ethics of excavating the dead  
by Dr. Jochen Sokoly, Associate Professor of the Arts and Architecture of the Islamic World, VCUarts Qatar
- D. The codicology of Qur'an manuscripts from China: approaches to researching an uncharted field  
by Marcus Fraser, Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge  
Q&A  
Panel chair: Professor Marcus Milwright

15:45 – 16:30: **Break**

16:30 – 17:30: **Closing keynote**, Philip Rahtz Lecture Theatre K/133

**Learning from mistakes: craft practice and the interpretation of early Islamic art**

by Professor Marcus Milwright  
British Academy Global Professor  
Professor of Islamic Art and Archaeology, Department of Art History and Visual Studies, University of Victoria, Canada

Chaired by Dr Richard Piran McClary

17:45 – 19:00: **Wine Reception**, Huntingdon Room K/123