

"TURNING POINTS"

Mediterranean Workshop

SPEAKER BIOS

Ceren Abi is a Ph.D. Candidate in the History Department at UCLA, researching World War I, its aftermath and uses of cultural property in the Ottoman Empire. She received her MA from the University of Leiden in European History in 2007. Through the Europaeum program, her MA studies also took place in Paris I-Sorbonne and Oxford. She received a Fulbright scholarship to study in the United States. Her most recent publication is a chapter on Ottoman Jews in *Judeo-Spanish and the Making of a Community*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015. She did her fieldwork in Turkey, Lebanon, Italy, France, and the United Kingdom.

Nicole Archambeau is social historian of health and healing. Her publications in *The Journal for the Social History of Medicine* and *The Bulletin of the History of Medicine* explore the sufferers' point of view of plague and medieval categories of sickness, remedy, and healing practitioners. Her present book project explores the impact of plague, mercenary invasion, and the sacrament of penance by studying narratives of healing in a 14th-century community. She received her PhD from the University of California, Santa Barbara. She taught for two years at Caltech as an ACLS New Faculty Fellow and spent six months at Princeton University's Shelby Cullom Davis Center. She is an assistant professor of History at Colorado State University.

Fred Astren is Professor in the Department of Jewish Studies at San Francisco State University. He holds a Ph.D. in Near Eastern Studies from the University of California at Berkeley. His current book project is entitled *Before the Geniza: Jews and the Early Middle Ages*, which casts a Mediterranean gaze on Jewish history in the years 500–950. Forthcoming in 2019 are book chapters on the failure of Visigothic anti-Jewish legislation in Spain, and on the impact of papermaking on ninth-century Jewish sectarianism in the Abbasid caliphate, a journal article on how minority and majority groups “co-produce” historical narratives in medieval Islam, and a chapter in the

Cambridge History of Judaism on non-rabbinic Judaisms in the medieval Islamic world. Astren is the author of *Karaite Judaism and Historical Understanding*, published by the University of South Carolina Press in 2004. He is a longtime active participant in the Mediterranean Seminar.

Mohamad Ballan received his PhD (with Distinction) in History from the University of Chicago in 2018 and is currently a Junior Fellow in the Society of Fellows at Dartmouth College. He is a historian of the pre-modern Mediterranean world, specializing in the political, intellectual and cultural history of medieval Iberia and North Africa. Mohamad is particularly interested in historiography, intercommunal relations, political theology, and borderlands/frontiers, and works primarily on Arabic, Latin and Spanish sources. His current book project, tentatively titled “Lord of the Pen and Sword,” explores the relationship between historiography, royal patronage and developments in political thought in late medieval Spain between 1250 and 1500, specifically examining the phenomenon of the “scholar-statesman” in the late medieval world. The book provides the first comprehensive study in English of the career and writings of Lisān al-Dīn ibn al-Khaṭīb (d. 1374), the preeminent historian, philosopher and chancellor of the Nasrid Kingdom of Granada, situating this figure within a dynamic intellectual and political network of scholars, functionaries and statesmen across the late medieval Mediterranean world. His various musings about medieval and early modern history can be found on his blog: <https://ballandalus.wordpress.com/>

Brian A. Catlos, PhD in Medieval Studies at the University of Toronto, is Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder and Research Associate in Humanities at the UC Santa Cruz. His work centers on Muslim-Christian-Jewish relations and ethno-religious identity in medieval Europe and the Islamic World, and the history of the pre-Modern Mediterranean. In addition to many articles, he has written *The Victors and the Vanquished: Christians and Muslims of Catalonia and Aragon, 1050–1300* (Cambridge UP, 2004; Premio del Rey & Fagg Prize, AHA), *Infidel Kings and Unholy Warriors: Power Faith and Violence in the Age of Crusade and Jihad* (FSG, 2014; hon. men. PROSE Awards), *Muslims of Medieval Latin Christendom, 1050–ca. 1615* (Cambridge UP, 2014; Hourani Prize, MESA; Haskins Medal, Medieval Academy). *Kingdoms of Faith: A New History of Islamic Spain* (Basic) came out in May 2018 and is being translated into Spanish, German, Polish, Korean and Simplified and Complex Chinese. He is currently working on a text-book, *The Sea in the*

Middle: The Mediterranean World, 650-1650 (U California: 2019) with Mark Meyerson and Thomas F. Burman, and *Paradoxes of Plurality: Diversity in the Medieval Mediterranean and the Foundations of Modernity*.

Julia Clancy-Smith (UCLA, History, 1988) is Regents Professor of modern History at the University of Arizona, Tucson, in the School of Middle East and North African Studies. In 2017, she was awarded a Guggenheim Research Fellowship to complete a scholarly monograph devoted to women, gender, and schooling in colonial North Africa. Clancy-Smith authored *Mediterraneans: North Africa and Europe in an Age of Migration, c.1800–1900* (California, 2011), and *Rebel and Saint: Muslim Notables, Populist Protest, Colonial Encounters (Algeria and Tunisia, 1800–1904)* (California, 1994). She co-edited *Domesticating the Empire: Languages of Gender, Race, and Family Life in French and Dutch Colonialism, 1830-1962* (Virginia, 1998) as well as *Walls of Algiers: Narratives of the City in Text and Image* (Getty Research Institute, 2009). Her Occasional Paper, *Tunisian Revolutions: Reflections on Seas, Coasts, and Interiors* (Georgetown, 2014) examines women and gender in the Arab uprisings. She co-authored a textbook, *The Middle East and North Africa: A History in Documents* (Oxford, 2014) and is completing another text *North Africa: from Carthage and Queen Dido to the Arab Spring* (Cambridge, 2018).

Samuel Cohen is an Assistant Professor of History at Sonoma State University in California and a 2019 Research Fellow at the *Migration und Mobilität in Spätantike und Frühmittelalter* DFG-Research group at the Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen. His research focuses on late antique Italy – more specifically, religious controversy and the Church of Rome. He has written about heresiological rhetoric in the *Liber Pontificalis*, the religious landscape of Ostrogothic Italy, Roman martyrial cemeteries, church rededications under Gregory the Great, and the language of Roman polemical literature. He is currently working on a monograph about the rhetoric of heresy and the authority of Roman bishops in Late Antiquity.

Andrew Devereux, Assistant Professor in the Department of History at UC-San Diego, is an historian of the medieval and early modern Mediterranean. He earned his Ph.D. from the Department of History at Johns Hopkins University in 2011. Prior to arriving at UC-San Diego, Devereux taught at Loyola Marymount University-Los Angeles for six years. Devereux's first book, *The Other Side of Empire*, is forthcoming with Cornell

University Press, and takes an expansive view of Spanish rationales for empire by analyzing processes of Mediterranean expansion against similar episodes of Spanish expansion in the early sixteenth-century Americas. Devereux's work has been recognized with grants from the John W. Kluge Center, the Folger Institute, the IIE-Fulbright, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Spanish Ministry of Culture and Education. He is a founding member of the Spain-North Africa Project and currently serves as the organization's President. He also serves on the Advisory Board to the Mediterranean Seminar.

Adriano Duque is an associate professor in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at Villanova University in August 2010. He holds a Phd in Latin and Greek Philology (Universidad de Sevilla, 2017) and a PhD in Romance Languages (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2004). His current research involves a study on rituals of shared veneration among Christian and Muslims in Medieval Spain and an examination of the intersections between folklore and danger maps along the Mediterranean.

Paolo Girardelli is an art and architectural historian working on the eastern Mediterranean in the late Ottoman period. He is based in Istanbul since 1999 (having moved from the Old to the New Rome...), where he teaches in the Department of History of Boğaziçi (Bosphorus) University. He was a Fellow in the Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture at MIT in 2005-06, and this year he is a visiting scholar in the Art and Art History Department of UNC-Chapel Hill. His research and main publications focus on European and non-Muslim architectural/urban/visual culture in the most diverse urban environments of the late-Ottoman world: Istanbul, Izmir, Salonica, Alexandria and beyond. He was co-editor, with Ezio Godoli, of the volume *Italian Architects and Builders in the Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey*, and guest editor of a thematic issue of the journal *Architecture Beyond Europe* on the space of diplomacy, both published in 2017. His current book project is a spatial and architectural history of the so-called Eastern Question, observed from the point of view of the changing urban/architectural image of Pera, the cosmopolitan district of diplomacy and foreign settlement in Istanbul.

Jonathan Haddad is Assistant Professor of French at the University of Georgia, where he teaches 17th and 18th century literature, as well as courses on Europe and Islam. His

research focuses on the role literature plays in the mediation of discourses of Self and Other, as illustrated in his recent publication in *Mediterranean Studies*, “People before Print: *Gens de lettres*, the Ottoman printing press, and the search for Turkish literature.” His current book project, *The Snake in the Ottoman Library*, covers the period from the establishment of the first movable-type printing press at the Ottoman court in 1727 to the publication of the Comte de Caylus’s *Contes orientaux* in 1743, and brings to light previously unstudied debates about the existence and value of “Turkish literature.” This study argues that expansive beliefs about literature among French scholars and travelers to the Ottoman Empire conflicted with a French literary market oriented towards the consumption of a narrowly defined “Turkish style.” He holds a Ph.D. in French from the University of California, Berkeley.

Ian F. Hathaway is a Ph. Candidate in History and Renaissance Studies at Yale University, and holds a Bachelor and Master’s degree from the University of Pavia (Italy). In his dissertation, Ian explores issues of mobility, protection, diplomacy, and state building in the early modern Mediterranean world. His primary source is a collection of over 2,000 travel and identification papers issued by the central institutions of the Republic of Venice, the Grand Duchy of Florence, the Order of St. John of Rhodes and Malta, the Republic of Ragusa/Dubrovnik, and the Ottoman Empire.

Sharon Kinoshita is Professor of World Literature and Cultural Studies at the University of California-Santa Cruz and co-director of The Mediterranean Seminar. A specialist in medieval French and Comparative Literature, she is the author of *Medieval Boundaries: Rethinking Difference in Old French Literature* and co-author of books on Chrétien de Troyes and Marie de France. A longtime advocate for work in Mediterranean Studies, she is the co-editor (with Peregrine Horden) of the Wiley-Blackwell *Companion to Mediterranean History* and (with Brian Catlos) of *Can We Talk Mediterranean? Conversations on an Emerging Field*. Her translation of Marco Polo’s *Description of the World* appeared in 2016, and she is currently at work on a companion text provisionally called *Re-Orientations: Marco Polo and the Global Middle Ages*.

Sergio La Porta is the Haig and Isabel Berberian Professor of Armenian Studies and Chair of the Department of Philosophy at California State University, Fresno. Among his publications are a three-volume study of Armenian commentaries on the works of

Dionysius the Areopagite, several edited volumes, and articles on political legitimacy and cultural developments in medieval Armenia. He is currently finishing a project with Alison Vacca on an edition and English translation with commentary of an eighth-century history of caliphal Armenia and on the Armenian version of the correspondence attributed to the Caliph ‘Umar II and the Emperor Leo III. Dr. La Porta is also the Editor of the *Journal of the Society for Armenian Studies*.

Georgios E. Markou is a Hannah Seeger Davis Postdoctoral Fellow at the Seeger Center for Hellenic Studies. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge for his dissertation on the artistic patronage of the Cypriot nobles in Renaissance Venice and the Veneto. His research has been supported by the Sylvia Ioannou Foundation, Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, Francis Haskell Memorial Fund and the Faculty of Architecture and History of Art at the University of Cambridge. His 2017 article “Bonifacio de’ Pitati’s Triumphs by Petrarch and their Cypriot Patron” was the first essay on Cypriot Renaissance patrons to appear in the *Burlington Magazine*. His research focuses on the Renaissance art and culture in Venice and his native Cyprus and the life and oeuvre of the artist Giorgione.

Lawrence J. McCrank, who received his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia in Medieval and Early Modern History and Comparative Literatures of those periods, retired after a career as a professor in History, Education, and Information Sciences; an academic dean; and a university librarian at four institutions – most recently at Chicago St. University where he was responsible for a \$50M capital project for a new academic library and cultural center, re-engineering library, instruction, information services for the campus and external constituencies with a faculty and staff of ca. 100 and multi-million dollar budgets. He taught while serving as a full-time executive officer of the universities he served. He has been a visiting professor at five universities and had been on the graduate faculty of Information Studies at UMCP (Maryland) where he designed and implemented the award-winning and first of MA-MLS programs in the US, training archivists, special collections librarians, and documentation specialists and in what became Public History. He is a Fellow of the Society of American Archivists (SAA) and the Real Societat Arqueologic Tarraconense (RSAT) in Spain, and was a pioneer in computing for the Humanities, eg., serving on several editorial and advisory boards including, *Humanities and Computing*, *The American Archivist*, and as senior editor for Hayworth Press’ *Primary Sources*; These interests were the foci of his

book *Historical Information Science: An Emergent Unidiscipline* (ASIS, 2002).. He has edited and authored 17 monographs and 75 articles, and has been identified as one of a dozen most published professional librarians in North America. Subjects are in frontier studies, and have included American monasticism, missions to the American NW Oregon Territory, medieval Cistercian colonization in the Crown of Arago-Catalunya in Spain, and the reconstitution of Christendom in the former domain of Islam in the Iberian peninsula, eg., *Medieval Frontier History in New Catalonia* (1996).. His current project is a series of 6 volumes entitled *The Tarragona Vortex: Reconquests and Restorations in the Medieval Frontier of New Arago-Catalunya*.

Ariana Natalie Myers is a fifth-year Ph.D. Candidate in the History Department at Princeton University. Her dissertation, *I Once Was Lost: Between Christian and Muslim in the Crown of Aragon, 1225-1337*, explores religious conversion between the two largest religious blocs of the region across multiple trajectories and social categories. She examines the hitherto understudied occurrence of the *baptizati*, an intermediate category applied in epithet form to recent converts to Christianity from Islam in Catalan-dominated regions. She graduated *summa cum laude* from Ripon College in 2014 with an A.B. in History, Classical Languages, and Spanish.

Amy G. Remensnyder is Professor of History and Royce Family Professor of Teaching Excellence at Brown University. A medieval historian, she focused on French monastic culture and collective memory in her first book. She then retrained herself as an Iberianist and published a book that spanned the Atlantic, placing medieval Iberia in dialogue with colonial Mexico by exploring the Virgin Mary as a symbol of conquest and conversion. A practitioner of engaged scholarship, she is a co-editor of the volume *Why the Middle Ages Matter: Medieval Light on Modern Injustice* and is the founder and director of the Brown History Education Prison Project. She has held many research fellowships, including most recently at the American Academy in Berlin. Her current book project is a *longue durée*, maritime microhistory of Lampedusa, which brings together past and present to explore this Mediterranean island's importance to mobile people now – migrants – and mobile people between 1200 and 1700: pirates and their victims. She uses Lampedusa and its cave-shrine shared by Muslim and Christian mariners to illuminate dark corners of the somber history of sea-borne violence in the Mediterranean that married piracy, captivity, slavery, ostensible religious antagonism and actual religious entanglement between Muslims and Christians.

Lena Salaymeh, Associate Professor at Tel Aviv Law, is on leave at Princeton's Davis Center during the 2018-2019 academic year. She researches and teaches Islamic and Jewish jurisprudence in both historical and contemporary legal systems. Her book, *The Beginnings of Islamic Law: Late Antique Islamic Legal Traditions* (Cambridge University Press, 2016) explores how critical historiography can illuminate Islamic legal beginnings and was awarded the American Academy of Religion Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion, Textual Studies. She has published in *Law and History Review*, *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Islamic Law & Society*, *Journal of Legal Education*, and *The Immanent Frame*. Her forthcoming publications use critical feminist theory and critical secularism studies to examine contemporary controversies about law and religion. She earned her PhD in Legal and Middle Eastern History from UC Berkeley and her JD from Harvard Law School; she is a member of the California Bar. (Her publications can be downloaded at <http://telaviv.academia.edu/LenaSalaymeh/>)

Will Stroebel is a comparatist specializing in Modern Greek and Turkish Literature, Book History and Mediterranean Studies. He received his PhD in Comparative Literature from the University of Michigan in 2017. His first monograph project, tentatively titled "Fluid Books, Fluid Borders: Departitioning the Greco-Turkish Book," follows a handful of twentieth-century Greek and Turkish works that moved across multiple formats, editions, bindings, geographies, alphabets or languages, taken apart and reassembled in deeply transformative ways despite the national partitions carving up the Aegean. His articles have been published in the *Journal of Modern Greek Studies*, *Book History*, and *Ergon*. He has experience as guest and assistant editor in both academic and literary journals.

Veli N. Yashin is an Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Southern California. He has earned his doctorate from Columbia University in Arabic and Comparative Literature, and he is the winner of the 2013 Horst Frenz Prize of the American Comparative Literature Association. Yashin's research and teaching focuses on modern Arabic and Turkish literatures and more broadly engages the theoretical implications of the complex entanglement between aesthetics and politics, between issues of cultural and political representation. His work has appeared and is forthcoming in *The Yearbook of Comparative Literature*, *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*, the *Journal of Arabic Literature*, *Middle Eastern Literatures*, *Rhetorica*, and *Postcolonial Studies*. He has recently completed a book

manuscript entitled *Disorienting Figures: The Sovereign and the Author in the Ottoman Nineteenth Century*.