

Symposium—Antiquarianism in the Islamic World

May 9–10, 2019

Bard Graduate Center, 38 West 86th Street, Lecture Hall

Sponsored by the Trehan Research Fund for Islamic Art and Material Culture



Copper Dirham of Najm al-Din Alpi (r. 1152-1176).
American Numismatic Society,
New York (1917.215.1072).

Program

Thursday, May 9

- 9 am **Welcome and Introduction**
Peter N. Miller (Bard Graduate Center) & Abigail Krasner Balbale (New York University)
- 9:30 am **Session I**

Stephennie Mulder (The University of Texas at Austin)
The Wisdom in Ruins: Veneration of the Material Past in the Medieval Islamic World

Alain Schnapp (University of Paris, Pantheon-Sorbonne)
The Notion of Ruins in the Medieval Islamic World

Questions & Discussion
- 11 am *Coffee Break*
- 11:30 am **Session II**

Sarah Bowen Savant (Aga Khan University, London)
Can Antiquarianism as a Concept Help Historians to Understand Better the Collecting Habits that Built the Arabic Tradition (ca. 700–1500)?

Stefan Heidemann (Hamburg University)
Appreciating, Collecting, and the Meaning of Ancient Objects in the Early and Middle Islamic Period

Questions & Discussion
- 1 pm *Lunch Break*

2 pm

Session III

Antoine Borrut (University of Maryland, College Park)

Negotiating Cultural Continuity in Early Islam: The Future of Ancient Knowledge

Daniel Mahoney (Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna)

Medieval Antiquarian Writing about Ancient South Arabia

Questions & Discussion

3:30 pm

Coffee Break

4 pm

Session IV

Konrad Hirschler (Free University of Berlin)

Antiquarianism and Manuscripts: Spoliation in Arabic Medieval Books

Marina Rustow (Princeton University)

The Near Past, the Distant Past, and the Political Legitimacy of the Fatimids and Buyids

Questions & Discussion

5:30 pm

Reception

Friday, May 10

9 am

Greeting and Summary

Peter N. Miller (Bard Graduate Center) & Abigail Krasner Balbale (New York University)

9:15 am

Session V

Frédéric Bauden (University of Liège)

Can al-Maqrīzī be Considered an Antiquarian?

Elias Muhanna (Brown University)

Antiquarianism and Encyclopedism in the Fourteenth Century

Islam Dayeh (Free University of Berlin)

Artefacts as Evidence in Muslim Historical-Legal Scholarship

Questions & Discussion

11 am

Coffee Break

11:30 am

Session VI

Edhem Eldem (Boğaziçi University, Istanbul; Collège de France, Paris)

Contextualizing Art and Artifacts in Istanbul in the Nineteenth Century

Ahmed El Shamsy (The University of Chicago)

Philology, Forgery, and Superstition: The Fierce Debate over the Shrine of Sayyida Zaynab in Early Twentieth-Century Egypt

Questions & Discussion