

Wittgenstein Award Project
“Mobility, Microstructures and Personal Agency in Byzantium”

Forum Moving Byzantium XIV

Creating and Communicating a Worldview:
Diagrammatic and Theoretical Accounts of the Cosmos in Palaiologan Byzantium

The Wittgenstein Project Team invites you to our fourteenth group discussion meeting. “Forum Moving Byzantium XIV” will take place on **Thursday 04.10.2018**, from **17:00** to **18:30**, at the Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies (University of Vienna, Postgasse 7, 1010 Vienna, Staircase 1, Third Floor, Hörsaal).

The Forum Moving Byzantium XIV will provide the unique opportunity to discuss with **Dr. Divna Manolova (University of Silesia in Katowice)** her current work on “**Creating and Communicating a Worldview: Diagrammatic and Theoretical Accounts of the Cosmos in Palaiologan Byzantium**”.

Divna Manolova is currently the Principal Investigator of a project on polymathy and intellectual curiosity in late Byzantium funded by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie/POLONEZ 1 grant (<https://curiousbyzantium.wordpress.com/>). As of November 2018, she will be a postdoctoral fellow at the Centre for Medieval Literature (University of Southern Denmark and University of York). Her research deals with Byzantine intellectual history, in particular, with the history of Byzantine science and philosophy. Most recently, she has embarked on the history of emotions and on the cognitive function of cosmological diagrams in medieval Greek manuscripts.

After a brief introduction in English, a group discussion will follow on the basis of the following preparatory readings:

1. Netz, Reviel. “Greek Mathematical Diagrams: Their Use and Their Meaning.” *For the Learning of Mathematics* 18, no. 3 (1998): 33–39.
2. Baudry, Catherine. “Un traité cosmologique byzantine inédit: *Harleianus* 5624, ff. 283r-284v.” *Byzantion* 84 (2014): 1–32.
3. Caudano, Anne-Laurence. “Cosmography, Asceticism and Female Patronage in Late Byzantine and Slavic Miscellanies.” *Almagest* 8, no. 2 (2017): 29–47.
4. Anderson, Benjamin. “Chapter 4: Byzantine Dissensus.” In Id., *Cosmos and Community in Early Medieval Art*, 107–43. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2017.
5. [Optional] Manolova, D., “Wondrous knowledge and the emotional responses of late Byzantine scholars to its acquisition.” In *Emotions through Time: From Antiquity to Byzantium*, edited by Douglas Cairns. [submitted]

Some of the questions that will be put forward for discussion are:

1. What is the cognitive role of the cosmological/cosmographical diagrams in the process of knowledge formation and how is it employed for didactic purposes?
2. Where is cosmological knowledge placed within the “canon” of late Byzantine education? What is its value and use?
3. Finally, in relation to the optional reading, I am seeking feedback as to the idea that acquiring knowledge concerning the cosmos could be viewed as both a cognitive and an affective experience, in particular, regarding emotions such as wonder and curiosity.

If you are interested in attending the event, please contact Ms. Paraskevi Sykopetritou (Project Coordinator) in order to receive further information and the relevant reading material: paraskevi.sykopetritou@univie.ac.at

For further information and updates on future events you may also consult our website: <http://rapp.univie.ac.at/>

We hope that you can join our Forum for fruitful discussions!