

Sacred Traditions and the Arts

Solve Calceamentum de Pedibus Tuis: Locus Enim, in Quo Stas, Terra Sancta Est' (exod. 3: 5): Liturgical, Theological, Architectural, and Art Historical Perspectives on the Ethiopian Church

Thursday 27th November, 2014

18.00-19.30, Research Forum South Room, The Courtauld Institute of Art.

Speakers: Dr. Erica C D Hunter (School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London) and Jacopo Gnisci (art historian specialising in Ethiopian art)



Ethiopian Monk Showing a Portrait of St. John from a Thirteenth-Century Gospel Manuscript, Lake Tana, Church of Debre Maryam, 2013 (photo: Jacopo Gnisci).

The Ethiopian Church, today known as the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church, is unique in many ways. The first part of this seminar will provide an overview of the rich history of Christianity in Ethiopia, following its official espousal in the fourth century, then will explore the role and significance of the *tabot* (Ark of the Covenant) in the Ethiopian Church. The second part of the seminar will examine how the theology and spirituality of the Ethiopian Church have shaped certain aspects of Ethiopian medieval iconography.

Dr. Erica C D Hunter is Senior Lecturer in Eastern Christianity, Department for the Study of Religions, at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London.

Jacopo Gnisci is an art historian specialising in Ethiopian art. His current research focuses on representations of the Passion in Ethiopia between the thirteenth and the early sixteenth centuries.

About the seminar series

The seminar on Sacred Traditions and the Arts is a joint venture between the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at King's and The Courtauld. It seeks to place researchers in dialogue who are working on any aspect of the sacred and visual culture. It is open to all scholars and students who have an interest in exploring the intersections of religion and art regardless of period, geography or tradition.

Open to all, free admission.

This seminar is jointly organised by Professor Ben Quash (King's College London) and Dr Scott Nethersole (The Courtauld Institute of Art).