Dear Colleagues and Students,

Byzantium at Ankara (a joint project of the Bilkent Department of History and Hacettepe University, Department of Art History) is happy to announce the inaugural talk of the Spring 2021/22 Seminar Series entitled: "Beyond Books: the Diagrammatic Mode in Byzantium."

For further info and registration, please send an email to byzantiumatankara@hotmail.com

Recording of our previous lectures can be found on our Youtube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN6mx3xkQknph5pPwrodhrw).

**Date:** 31.03.2022

**Time:** 18.00 (Ankara Time Zone) via zoom.

**Title:** “Beyond books: The Diagrammatic Mode in Byzantium”

**Speaker:** Prof. Linda Safran (Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, Toronto)

**Abstract:**

Beyond books: The Diagrammatic Mode in Byzantium:

Diagrams in manuscripts are easy to recognize, if not necessarily easy to describe. This talk considers diagrams outside of manuscripts and unaccompanied by lengthy texts. Such diagrams, as well as abstract ways of thinking diagrammatically—that is, in linear and geometrical terms, in three dimensions and not just two—were more widespread in the Byzantine visual landscape than has previously been noticed. I propose that this “diagrammatic mode” played a role in public life, helping to structure the Byzantines’ understanding of time and space, demonstrate harmonious relationships, and reify τάξις.

**Biography**

Linda Safran is a Research Fellow at the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Toronto. She holds a Ph.D in History of Art from Yale University. Her research interests are Byzantine and Mediterranean art and architecture, medieval studies, cultural history, material culture studies, archaeology of Southern Italy, Art History, and Jewish Art History.