National Narratives and the Medieval Mediterranean
Conference sponsored by the Getty Foundation’s Connecting Art Histories Initiative and the American Academy in Rome

April 28, 2015

9:00  Welcome and Introduction from the Co-directors
Kimberly Bowes, American Academy in Rome
William Tronzo, University of California San Diego
“When -- if ever -- will a history of Mediterranean art and archaeology be possible?”

Session I: Basic building blocks – names and objects

9:30  Silvia Armando, Metropolitan Museum of Art
“Oriented Words: Shifting Categories and Mutable Lexical Choices at the Dawn of Islamic Art Studies”

10:00 Francisco J. Moreno Martin, Universidad Complutense de Madrid
“The Treasure of Guarrazar: The Ideological Use of Visigothic Archaeology and Art from the 19th century onwards”

10:30  Discussion

10:45  Break

Session II: Crowd-sourcing the past

11:00  Dina Bakhoum, American University of Cairo

11:30 Ruggero Longo, Università degli Studi della Tuscia, Viterbo
“Idealizing Medieval Mediterranean? Creation, Re-creation and Representation of Arab-Norman Sicily”

12:00 Judith Bronstein, University of Haifa
“Zionism, Israel Crusader Past and Archaeological Remains”

12:30  Discussion
1:00 Break

2:30 Introduction to Afternoon

**Session III: National identity materialized**

2:45 Trpimir Vedriš, University of Zagreb
   „The Baptismal Font of Duke Višeslav: A Case Study in the History of Reception and Formation of Croatian National Identity (c.1853 – c.2013)“

3:15 Magdalena Skoblar, The British School at Athens/The British School at Rome
   “Repurposing the Virgin: How an Early Medieval Sculpture Became a Modern-Day Croatian Icon”

3:45 Solinda Kamani, University of Kent
   “Archaeology and the Construction of National Identity in Communist Albania”

4:15 Discussion

4:30 Break

**Session IV: Sites set to work**

5:00 Nikolas Bakirtzis, Cyprus Institute
   “Medieval Fortifications as Heritage: The Cases of Nicosia and Rhodes”

5:30 Erica D’Amico, University of Richmond, Rome
   “How the “Byzantine Past” is Used in Archaeological Perspective: A Case Study in Venice and the Veneto region”

6:00 Mohedidine Chaouali, Institut National du Patrimoine, Tunisia
   “L’Afrique du Nord byzantine à la lumière des découvertes archéologiques récentes”

6:30-7 Discussion

7-8:00 Reception