

ANAMED Library cordially invites you to a public talk by
Associate Professor Lynn Jones



The talk on her forthcoming book titled *The Cult of the Emperor in Middle Byzantine Art* will be held at the **ANAMED Library**.

In this book, Professor Jones examines the imperial cult in the Middle Byzantine period (843-1204) as documented in texts and art. She demonstrates the ways in which images of St. Constantine were used to shape and define imperial ideology in the 9-10th centuries. Then she builds the case for the development of a sustained, popular cult of Nikephoros I Phokas (r. 963-69). In the talk, she will focus on the ways in which one prominent presentation of Constantine, the vestibule mosaic in Hagia Sophia, deviates from this standard. Professor Jones argues that it reflects official Church opposition to the imperial cults,

privileging Constantine's historic role as founder of the Christian Empire over his saintly status.



Professor Jones specializes in the art of the medieval East: the Empire of Byzantium, the kingdoms of Armenia and Georgia and the Islamic Caliphates. Issues of medieval identity have informed much of her work. Her first book, *Between Islam and Byzantium: Aght`amar and the Visual Construction of Medieval Armenian Rulership* was published in 2008. She is editor of, and contributed to, a festschrift published in 2014, *Byzantine Images and Their Afterlives: Essays in Honor of Annmarie Weyl Carr*. Her current book project, *The Cult of the Ruler in Middle Byzantine Art* traces the evidence for the development of a cult of saintly emperors, modeled on the saintly status accorded to Constantine I. Her work as a short-term senior fellow at ANAMED focused on images of Constantine from the 9th-12th centuries, and the ways in which they reflect both popular and official ideologies of the development of imperial cults.

Professor Jones has published over 30 essays and articles, is an active committee member for the Fulbright Program, the International Center of Medieval Art, and the Medieval Academy. She has held multiple fellowships, including Dumbarton Oaks, the Center for Advancement of the Visual Arts, and the Mellon Foundation, among others.

Date: 25 May 2018, Friday, 18:00

Place: ANAMED Library (2nd floor)