

Dear ACS friends

Here are a three events that may be of your interest:

Lecture: "***Cappadocia: 10th C. Churches and 21st C. Hot Air Balloons***"

Lecturer: Prof. Robert Ousterhout (University of Pennsylvania, Fellow of Dumbarton Oaks)

Location: Turkish Embassy Chancery (2525 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC)

Date & Time: Thursday, October 25, 2012 6:30pm

For more info: <http://www.americanfriendsofturkey.org/Lectures.aspx>

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Conference: **A Strange Utility: Architecture Toward Other Ends** →

CFP Deadline: Friday, November 2, 2012

Portland State University, Portland, OR, USA

April 26 2013

Ours is an era of austerity measures, global economic turmoil, and resource depletion in which the utility, or "use value" of any product, resource, or process is championed as its foremost virtue. Politicians aspire to budgets that maintain only the most functional and necessary line-items and consumers seek products that are economical in their use of resources or their adaptability from one utility to another—for example, cars that use only a limited amount of gasoline, furniture that converts into other uses, cell phones that are also computers, cameras, and personal navigation systems.

Of course, the discipline of architecture has always been linked to the idea of utility—albeit in a variety of ways and to different degrees. From architecture's putative origins as a primitive form of shelter made of foliage to the Modernist dictum that form follows function, architecture, from the beginning, has been required to perform a "useful" function. Not surprisingly, utility remains a central concern within contemporary architectural practice, but alongside some of the obvious benefits—the development of more energy efficient materials and processes and the economic incentive to redevelop existing buildings before building anew—have come some strange, if understudied effects. It is now common to describe the inhabitants of buildings as "users," a turn of phrase that subtly positions architecture as a product whose value, in the end, is determined primarily by the function of its use, and its inhabitants, in the end, as consumers of space, rather than active participants who engage with and indeed transform space through their habits, interventions, and rituals.

Meanwhile, outside the confines of mainstream practice, architecture is being appropriated to ends that seem to dramatically expand and estrange the familiar notion of utility. For example, contemporary Polish artist Monika Sosnowska recently used the twisted architectural form of a Soviet-bloc government building as a metaphor for the pressures exerted upon now-collapsed political regimes. Likewise, artists Paul Pfeiffer, Thomas Demand, and James Casebere have all used the architectural model (and its subsequent imaging) as a vehicle for addressing historical and societal ills, their photographs addressing subjects such as the atomization of the crowd at the sports arena, the history of American slavery, and the atrocities of Nazi Germany. At the same time, for revered science-fiction author Bruce Sterling, architecture is the very medium through which future worlds are destroyed, imagined, and rebuilt. Moreover, within the sphere of architecture itself, as envisioned by Jean-Gilles Décosterd and Philippe Rahm, the built environment is

designed to incite physiological and biological responses; indeed, for many avant-garde architects, architecture is both a medium and means to an unconventional end, one part of an equation that considers, among many influences, the social, cultural, mythological, economic, electromagnetic, biological and chemical interactions between our bodies and the built environments they engage.

Recognizing the contemporary currency of utility, this symposium seeks unexpected ways of defining this term within and with respect to the built environment. Submissions sought include, but are not limited to, academic papers, performances, audience-participatory projects, poetry, and prose. This symposium will be structured around a series of events and speakers that grapple with the following questions: how and who has defined architecture's use-value, its utility? How can turning to other disciplines' unexpected utilization of architecture expand architects' and architectural historians' perception of architecture's utility? And, what are architecture's future utilities? As architecture's primary function is called into question daily, we may find that the answer to architecture's future lies precisely in its strange utility.

Confirmed Keynote Speakers:

Philippe Rahm, Philippe Rahm architectes, Paris, France

Jimenez Lai, Assistant Professor of Architecture, University of Illinois Chicago

Jill L. Stoner, Associate Professor of Architecture, UC Berkeley

Please respond with 500 word abstract/proposal and CV, emailed to both:

nwendl@pdx.edu

and

iwallace@uga.edu

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What is the Bible? The Patristic Doctrine of Scripture

Third Annual Symposium in Honor of Fr. Georges Florovsky

Princeton University & Princeton Theological Seminary

Friday, February 15, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. to Saturday, February 16, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

The purpose of this year's symposium is to re-open a consideration of the **doctrine** of Scripture for contemporary theology rooted in the tradition of the Fathers (Greek, Latin, and Oriental), an endeavor inspired by the theological vision of the 20th century's foremost Orthodox Christian theologian, Fr. Georges Florovsky. That is: our interest is not in mere description of historical uses of Scripture or interpretive methods, but rather in the very nature of Scripture itself and its place within the whole economy of creation, revelation, and salvation. The symposium is organized by the Fr. Georges Florovsky Orthodox Christian Theological Society at Princeton University and the School of Christian Vocation and Mission at Princeton Theological Seminary.

Call for Papers <http://www.princeton.edu/~florov/CFP_2013_Patristic_Symposium.pdf> : **Interested in giving a paper at the symposium? Click here** <http://www.princeton.edu/~florov/CFP_2013_Patristic_Symposium.pdf> **to read and respond to the call.**

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios

Archbishop Demetrios <<http://www.goarch.org/archbishop/demetrios/biography>> (Ph.D., Harvard) is Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in America. He has had a long and distinguished career in ministry and academia. He is the recipient of numerous degrees, earned and honorary, and the author of 7 books and 100s of articles. His lecture will focus on St. John Chrysostom.

Fr. John McGuckin

Fr. John McGuckin <<http://www.utsnyc.edu/faculty/faculty-directory/john-mcguckin>> (Ph.D., Durham) is Professor in Late Antique and Byzantine Christian History at Union Theological Seminary, as well as a Professor of Byzantine Christian Studies at Columbia University. Some of Fr. John's 23 books and many articles examine the thought of Origen, about whom he will be speaking.

Dr. Kathleen McVey

Dr. Kathleen McVey <http://www.ptsem.edu/index.aspx?id=1944&menu_id=72> (Ph.D., Harvard) is Joseph Ross Stevenson Professor of Church History at Princeton Theological Seminary. The author of many publications and a noted scholar of Syriac Christianity, she will lecture on the doctrine of Scripture in St. Ephrem the Syrian.

Dr. Michael Legaspi

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<<http://www.andover.edu/Academics/PhilosophyReligiousStudies/Faculty/Pages/MichaelLegaspi.aspx>> (Ph.D.,

Harvard) is Instructor in Philosophy & Religious Studies at Phillips Academy. He received the 2011 John Templeton Award for Theological Promise for his book, *The Death of Scripture and the Rise of Biblical Studies*. He will lecture on related matters.

Fr. Patrick Henry Reardon

Fr. Patrick Henry Reardon <<http://www.allsaintsorthodox.org/pastor/bio.php>> is pastor of All Saints Orthodox Church in Chicago and holds graduate degrees from St. Anselm's College and the Pontifical Biblical Institute, both in Rome. Fr. Pat is an engaging speaker and prolific author, having published 7 books and well over 1000 articles. He will offer the public lecture on Friday night.

Dr. Ellen T. Charry

Dr. Ellen Charry <<http://www.ptsem.edu/index.aspx?id=6333>> (Ph.D., Temple) is Margaret W. Harmon Professor of Systematic Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary. She is the author of 5 books and many scholarly and popular articles. She will lecture on the doctrine of Scripture in St. Augustine of Hippo.

Dr. George L. Parsenios

Dr. George Parsenios <http://www.ptsem.edu/index.aspx?id=1951&menu_id=72> (Ph.D., Yale) is Associate Professor of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary. His teaching and publications include work on the interpretation of the New Testament in the early church. He will moderate the closing panel discussion.

Julio Bermudez, Ph.D.

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"leap and the net will appear"