



Research - Education - Preservation

Newsletter no: 9 (Spring 2018)

Upcoming events

28th Levantine Heritage Foundation dinner gathering in London – Tuesday 10 April 2018

at the Friends Room, London Hellenic Centre, with guest speakers Prof Peter Mackridge ‘The delights of Istanbul in eighteenth-century Greek literature’ and Tom Rees ‘Camarthen to Cairo via Smyrna and Cyprus: the Rees family 1850 to 1950’ - [flyer](#)

3rd Levantine Heritage Foundation international conference: ‘The Levantines: Identities and Heritage, Athens, Greece - 2-3 November 2018

We are still in the planning stages for this conference and would love to hear from you if you could assist us in terms potential speakers, sponsoring the event or side events, accommodation options and helping out for duties before and during the conference. We are also open to suggestions of holding joint events in the same period with partner organisations based in Greece to celebrate the shared culture.

Please note we have secured discounted prices at the [St George’s Hotel](#) the offer is time limited to 25th of April, so please contact us if you wish to secure accommodation during the conference season.

For further information: lhf-athens2018@levantineheritage.com / [Call for papers:](#)



Recent events



27th Levantine Heritage Foundation dinner gathering in London, 18 January 2018, with guest speakers Dr Philipp Wirtz (SOAS) 'Rave reviews in Pera: German Residents in late Ottoman Istanbul as Observers of Ottoman Cultural Life, 1908 - 1918' & Taylan Güngör (SOAS) 'The late-Medieval Italian community in Pera' & Tom Young 'Lost Levantine Houses of Beirut' - [flyer](#)



Members and friends of the Izmir Levantine Foundation enjoy the Easter meal, 1 April 2018

Requests

Become a member of the LHF

We hope you find our website and events interesting and useful. Access to the website and to many of our talks are free. Our work is mainly achieved thanks to our volunteers and site contributors. However, we do have significant real costs in adding to and maintaining the website, funding small research projects,

organising events and preparing publications and other materials. Where we charge for events, we aim to cover only the direct costs of catering in order to make them accessible to as wide an audience as possible, including students and early career researchers.

The Levantine Heritage Foundation is reliant on membership subscriptions, donations and sponsorship. Please consider becoming a member or renewing your membership. Membership is just £20 a year, or £80 for 5 years or you can become a life member for £500. Benefits include priority booking for events and discounts on LHF publications and events where we have to charge a fee.

You can join the LHF or renew your membership on line at <http://www.levantineheritage.com/join-us.html> or email membership@levantineheritage.com. You can also pay by cheque and send it to: The Levantine Heritage Foundation, 71-75 Shelton Street, London WC2H 9JQ.

We would appreciate a volunteer to help us manage our membership lists, renewals, reminders better. If you can spare the time, please get in touch.

Donations and legacies

If you wish to make a donation to the LHF, you can also do this online at <http://www.levantineheritage.com/support-us.html>. Our bank details are there if you wish to make a direct transfer. Or you can send cheques to the LHF at The Levantine Heritage Foundation, 71-75 Shelton Street, London WC2H 9JQ.

If you wish to provide a legacy for the LHF in your will or if you have family archives that are relevant to Levantine research, please contact Quentin Compton-Bishop at chairman@levantineheritage.com to discuss your wishes.

Gift Aid:

If you are a UK tax payer, you can make your donation go further with gift-aid – [word](#) / [pdf](#) documents:

A reminder to existing members that the membership year expires at the end of September and that we will be writing to those due to renew shortly.

Corporate Sponsorship

Major events, such as the upcoming Athens 2018 conference and other planned events which need detailed preparation, cannot be financed by ticket sales alone. We do have a small number of commercial sponsors and supporters to whom we are very grateful and we seek further partnerships and commercial sponsors. Benefits include your name and logo on our website and in publications such as conference programmes.

We have a number of package levels for sponsorship and if you would like to discuss these opportunities further please contact our Chairman Quentin Compton-Bishop on chairman@levantineheritage.com.

Join the LHF team

We are a small team of volunteers growing an expanding international network of academic and amateur researchers, historians and people with a great diversity of connections and interests in the heritage of the Levant region. Our headquarters is in London, we have active groups in Istanbul and Athens, and many collaborators in other countries and cities including, Izmir, Paris, Amsterdam, Rome, Toronto, New York and Los Angeles. We are looking for volunteers who can commit time to advise us and help organise events and communicate with our wide network. Specific opportunities include:

- Academics or historians to advise the Trustees and help with conference programmes and publications
- Membership Secretary to grow membership and take charge of member support and

communications

If you are interested in getting more involved with the LHF, please contact Craig Encer, General Secretary on secretary@levantineheritage.com.

Purchasing copies of past LHF Conference books:

If you wish to purchase copies of conference presentations books: **First Levantine Conference in Istanbul**, 'The Levantines: Commerce and Diplomacy', held in Istanbul November 2014 - [details](#) or

Levantines Past, Present, Future Symposium, Izmir, November 2010 - [details](#):

Please refer to the pricing instructions here ([doc](#) / [pdf](#) version), and send the correct amount (including postage) through our [paypal buttons](#) (or bank transfer - details on support us page) with your address details please:

Current research

Levantine Historical portraits

Dr. Caroline Mesrobian Hickman, a Washington, DC, based art historian, seeks historical portrait images of Levantines, singly or in family groups, for a proposal to be submitted to the 3rd Levantine Heritage Foundation conference. The proposal will address identity and narrative in Levantine portraits, with an emphasis on those commissioned in the 18th and 19th centuries, in the Levant as well as in the sitters' countries of origin. This research and evaluation will complement and further perspectives taken up in her 2016 LHF conference paper, "Sublime Purveyor of Levantine Trade and Taste: The David van Lennep Family Portrait." Dr. Hickman welcomes correspondence with descendants of Levantine families concerning their family portraits. She may be reached at cimhickman@gmail.com.

Francesca Biancani call for exchange of information and potential networking

Francesca Biancani is a social historian currently affiliated as Postdoctoral Research Fellow at CEDEJ-IFAO, Cairo, Egypt. Her present research looks at the relationship between domestic service and cosmopolitanism between the middle of the 19th century and the middle of the 20th century. More specifically it deals with a specific segment of the domestic service workforce in Cairo and Alexandria, women migrating from the borderland between present-day Slovenia and Italy (both ethnic Italian and Slovenian) via Trieste to Egypt to work as nannies and governesses. Building on previous research on the agency of the *aleksandrinke* or *triestine* and their representation in the Slovenian national imagination (Milharčič Hladnik 2015), Francesca Biancani looks more specifically at the role played by this peculiar wave of female migrant work in the making of the Egyptian cosmopolitan order and processes of elite class formation and self-representation, especially within the Levantine community in Cairo and Alexandria. She is looking for first-hand memories and testimonies of former *aleksandrinke's protégés* and more broadly all those who can report family memories about the intimate labour done by the *aleksandrinke* within their employers' household. Any lead and contribution will be highly appreciated and duly acknowledged. She can be contacted through our Foundation or directly at the following email addresses: francesca.biancani@unibo.it and francesca.biancani@cedej-eg.org

Francesca Biancani est une historienne sociale actuellement affiliée au CEDEJ-IFAO du Caire comme poste de chercheuse post-doctorale. Sa recherche actuelle examine la relation entre le service domestique et le cosmopolitisme égyptien entre le XIXe siècle et le milieu du XXe siècle. Plus spécifiquement, la recherche

traite de la main-d'œuvre domestique au Caire et à Alexandrie des femmes migrantes de la frontière entre la Slovénie actuelle et l'Italie (italiennes et slovènes) *via* Trieste en Egypte pour travailler comme gouvernantes et nounous. Partant des recherches antérieures sur l'agence de l'*aleksandrinke* ou *triestine* et leur représentation dans l'imaginaire national slovène (Milharčič Hladnik 2015), Francesca Biancani examine plus spécifiquement le rôle joué par cette vague particulière de travail des migrantes dans la création de l'ordre cosmopolite égyptien et dans les processus de formation et de auto-représentation de la classe élitaires, particulièrement au sein de la communauté levantine au Caire et à Alexandrie. Elle recherche des mémoires et des témoignages des anciens protégés par l'*aleksandrinke* et, plus largement, de tous ceux qui peuvent rapporter des mémoires familiaux sur le travail intime accompli par les *aleksandrinke* au sein de leur foyer. Toute piste et contribution sera hautement appréciée et dûment reconnue. Elle peut être contactée via notre Fondation ou directement aux adresses électroniques suivantes: francesca.biancani@unibo.it et francesca.biancani@cedej-eg.org

Omri Paz request for information on some old Boudjah houses and merchants

My name is Omri Paz, a historian of the Ottoman Empire. I'm working on a book to be published with Routledge. The book follows the work of the Ottoman police in the making in Izmir of the mid-19th century. I'm trying to locate four villas in Boudjah/Buca in 1851:

1. Mr. Benjamin (Beny) Barker (British)
2. Mr. Reeve (British)
3. Mr. Langdon (American).

all three villas were next to each other.

4. Mr. John J A Werry (British)

If anyone has a map of Buca of the time, or can locate any of these villas on a map, or has photos/picture of any of the men or villas, I would appreciate it.

You can write me to the following e-mail: omri.paz@gmail.com, Thank you very much.

External Upcoming Events

Exhibition: Kendine Has (Story of the Bomonti Beer factory)

until 12 April 2018

Naval Musuem, Beşiktaş, Istanbul – [info](#)

Lecture: 'Notes on The Crimean Memorial Istanbul and its living history', Canon Ian Sherwood

20 April 2018, 5 pm

Royal Anthropological Institute, 50 Fitzroy St, Fitzrovia, London – [info](#)

Book launch: 'Österreich in Istanbul III', Elmar Samsinger

25 April 2018, 2.30 pm

Austrian Cultural Office, Yeniköy Mahallesi, Köybaşı Cd., Sarıyer, Istanbul – [info](#)

Round table meeting: 'Multi-ethnic Cities in the Mediterranean World: History, Culture, Heritage'

4-5 June 2018, 7 pm

University of Genoa, Italy – [info](#)

Lecture: ‘Late Ottoman New Media: Journal Reading and Visuality During the Hamidian Era (1876-1909)’, Dr Ahmet Ersoy

13 June 2018, 7 pm

Khalili Lecture Theatre, SOAS, London – [info](#)

Conference: Mediterranean Europe(s). Images and ideas of Europe from the Mediterranean shores

4-6 July 2018

Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici, Naples, Italy – [info](#)

Conference - On Belonging: English Conceptions of Migration and Transculturality, 1550 – 1700

26-28 July 2018

TIDE, University of Liverpool, London Campus, 33 Finsbury Square, London – [info](#)

Recent Publications

Accidental Orientalists: Modern Italian Travelers in Ottoman Lands - Barbara Spackman, 2017 – [info:](#)

Identifying with Nationality: Europeans, Ottomans, and Egyptians in Alexandria - Will Hanley, Columbia University Press, 2017 – [info:](#)

Peter the Great humbled: The Russo-Ottoman war of 1711 – Nicholas Dorrell, Helion & Company, 2018 – [info:](#)

Italian Architects and Builders in the Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey: Design across Borders - editors: Paolo Girardelli, Ezio Godoli, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2017 – [info:](#)

Not yet published:

A Short History of Venice and the Venetian Empire - Maria Fusaro – [link:](#)

Britain and the Collapse of the Ottoman Empire: British Diplomacy and the Birth of the Modern Middle East - Warren Dockter, Christopher Catherwood – [link:](#)

Orientalist Lives: Western Artists in the Middle East, 1830-1920, James Parry, I.B. Tauris – [link:](#)

Enlightening Europe on Islam and the Ottomans: Mouradgea d’Ohsson and His Masterpiece - Carter Findley

“Levantine Cosmopolitans”: The Entrepreneurs of Salonica Between the Ottoman Empire and the Greek Nation-State, Paris Papamichos Chronakis - Stanford University Press, 2018

Mediterranean Encounters: Trade and Pluralism in Early Modern Galata - Fariba Zarinebaf, University of California Press, July 2018 – [link:](#)

New External digitisations:

Cosmopolitan Athens: the communities of western-Europeans in Athens in the 19th century - N Potamianos, 2017 – [link:](#)

Charles Besley Gribble - first minister of St Paul's Church for Seamen (1847-58) – [link](#):

The role of Alvies Gritti within the Ottoman politics in the context of the "Hungarian Question" (1526-1534) - Elvin Otman, 2009 – [link](#):

Turkey-Vatican Relations from the Ottomans to the Republic - Ahmet Türkan, International Journal of Humanities and Social Science, 2015 – [link](#):

Competing for Aleppo's souls: The Roman Catholic and Protestant missions in the Ottoman period - Bruce Masters, Archaeology & History in the Lebanon, issue 22, 2005 – [link](#):

Ottoman Istanbul from the Perspective of the Catholic Missionaries in the Post-Tridentine Period (End of 16th - 17th centuries) - Elmira Vassileva, International Symposium on Ottoman Istanbul - IV, 2016 – [link](#):

Latin-Rite Christians in Early Modern Istanbul - Eric Dursteler, International Symposium on Ottoman Istanbul - I, 2013 – [link](#):

A British Merchant in Turkey: Freeman of the Levant Company and Consul, Donald Sandison at Bursa, 1795-1868 - Emine Zeytinli, 2018 – [link](#):

Anglicanism in Smyrna (1815-1923) - Chris Royer, Global Missiology, 2018 – [link](#):

Entrepreneurship and relational capital in a Levantine Context: The Abbott of Salonica (18th-19th century) - Despina Vlami, 2009 – [link](#):

Urban palimpsest at Galata & an architectural inventory study for the Genoese colonial territories in Asia Minor - H. Sercan Sağlam, 2018 – [link](#):

The Ottoman East and the 'Moral Geography' of Europe's Enlightenment - Karen Bird, Limina Journal of Historical and Cultural Studies, 2016 – [link](#):

Ottoman Empire's dept management in 19th century and role of the Galata Bankers (1838-1881) - Bedriye Tunçsiper, Arzu Tay, Fatih Bayramoğlu, MUFAD, 2003 – [link](#):

From the Polish Times of Pera: Late Ottoman Istanbul through the Lens of Polish Emigration, Paulina Dominik, 2015 – [link](#):

S. Ralph Harlow: An American chaplain in Smyrna; the history behind the NATO base – [link](#):

Room for Diplomacy: Catalogue of British embassy and consulate buildings, 1800-2010 – [link](#):

From Lancs to the Levant: Travels into my family's past - Angela Fry – [link](#):

New Podcasts:

Izmir & Thessaloniki: from Empire to Nation-State - Ottoman History podcast with Kalliopi Amygdalou – [link](#):

Emek Cinema and Contesting Istanbul's Urban Development - Ottoman History Podcast no 342, 23 January 2018 – [link](#):

Nationality and Cosmopolitanism in Alexandria - Ottoman History podcast with Will Hanley – [link](#):

French Child Ambassadors in the East - Episode 103, 15 minute history, 21-2-2018 – [link](#):

Civilisation: A Sceptic's Guide, Prof David Cannadine - Radio 4, 20-3-2018 – [link](#):

When Greeks flew kites – Radio 4, 25-3-2018 – [link](#):

New Video productions:

Syria's White Helmets - Witness, 2016 – [link](#):

The Boy who started the Syrian War - Featured Documentary, 2017 – [link](#):

What Good is Ottoman Legal History For? (Spring 2010 Gibb Lecture) - Dr. Engin Deniz Akarlı – [link](#):

Nigel Slater's Middle East, BBC2 – episodes [Lebanon](#) – [Turkey](#) – [Iran](#)

'Lost Levantine Houses of Beirut', Tom Young – [link](#):

'Troublemaker, Liberator, Scapegoat: Spears in Lebanon, 1941-44', Tom Young – [link](#):

Byzantium: A Tale of Three Cities - Simon Sebag Montefiore, BBC 2013 – [episode 1](#), [episode 2](#), [episode 3](#):

Journalist Robert Worth discusses Lessons from the Levant with historian and author Philip Mansel, Ph.D., 15 March 2018 – [link](#):

'The Silk Road of the Middle East', Peter Frankopan, Tahrir Institute, 28-2-2018 – [link](#):

New news article:

Ship in a Bottle - Hürriyet Daily News, Aylin Öney Tan, 8 January 2018 – [link:](#)

Istanbul exhibition recalls beer's popularity in Ottoman times, 28 March 2018 – [link:](#)

Latest Website additions

Photo galleries / analysis:

Souvenir handkerchiefs: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/souvenir-handkerchiefs.html>

Zonaro illustration: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/zonaro-illustration.html>

Advertising cards: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/advertising-cards.html>

British nurses Constantinople: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/british-nurses.html>

British Embassy in the press: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/british-embassy-press.html>

Interviews:

Francesco Pongiluppi interview: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/francesco-pongiluppi-interview.html>

Erol Makzume interview: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/erol-makzume-interview.html>

Family history submission:

Gaston John Fercken - Richard Fercken - <http://www.levantineheritage.com/pdf/Gaston-John-Fercken-Bio.pdf>

Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/LevantineHeritageFoundation>

Our Youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/LevantineHeritage>

Our Mission Statement: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/pdf/Mission-Statement-for-Levantine-Heritage-Foundation.pdf>

The newly formed LHF Academic Advisory Committee

In order to better tailor our energies and resources for our future activities and how we connect with a wider pool of researchers and disseminate the findings and proceedings in an academically more rigorous manner we are in the process of composing the members and mission statement of the LHF Academic Advisory Committee, some of whose members are listed [here](#). If you wish to learn more or support us in this networking please contact us.

If you wish to receive our future newsletters and communications you have to respond to us

In addition to comply with the [new data protection rules](#) we request all who wish to remain on our e-mail circular listing need to respond to us by **25th May 2018**. So all those who do not write to us at contact@levantineheritage.com by this date will no longer be in our communication listing. We will send a further reminder on this in a few weeks' time to ensure we get your wishes on this honoured. The purpose of holding your personal data is for information on LHF research, events, publications and membership. We will also ensure your data is held securely. We will not share your personal data with 3rd parties and will delete this information if you request us to do so or do not respond within the window of opportunity.

Next newsletter is scheduled for 1 August 2018, contact us if you wish for an entry / announcement.

Craig Encer

General Secretary – secretary@levantineheritage.com

The Levantine Heritage Foundation

Wishing all our members a very Happy Spring & Easter past!

The Levantine Heritage Foundation is a non-profit association with a constitution prepared and adopted according to the guidelines of The Charity Commission for England and Wales.
Trustees: Quentin Compton-Bishop, Craig Encer, Dr Philip Mansel FRHS, Dr Axel Corlu, Dr Kalliopi Amygdalou, Zeynep Cebeci Svari, Jonathan Beard, Nuri olakođlu