



Upcoming Conference Invitation & Call for Papers:

**Title: 'The Effects and Contributions of Levantines in the development of Beyoğlu / Pera and Galata Neighbourhoods: A long heritage of Trade, Culture and Arts since 1453'**

Friday 23 – Sunday 25th September 2016, Beyoğlu, Istanbul

Organised by the Levantine Heritage Foundation with the support of the Municipality of Beyoğlu

Invitation to provide support – sponsorship of side events, accommodation for visiting delegates, duties before and during the conference

Beyoğlu known by the minorities as 'Pera', developed as a neighbourhood from the Middle Ages as the extension of the former Genoese trade colony of Galata. As Galata couldn't contain the growing number of Embassies from the 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards these were relocated in Beyoğlu and built in architecture to reflect the importance of the various emerging empire nations of the day. These buildings now serve the respective nations consulates. The same trend of movement was also followed by the Levantines, resident foreigners and minorities and by the 19<sup>th</sup> century the 'Grande Rue de Pera' became the showcase of the Ottoman Empire, where trade, culture, arts flourished in the 'La Belle Époque'. Today the grandeur is not completely lost, the buildings stand, the thoroughfare is still a magnet for shoppers and the area still has a distinctive part-foreign feel. The conference aims to analyse and celebrate the long and varied contribution Levantines and their businesses have had in shaping this neighbourhood and beyond.

Range of topics for which proposals are invited include:

Levantine and their role in transforming Pera from an outlying suburb to the commercial hub of the city; Galata bankers; Culture and Arts of Pera and the role Levantines played in their local development; Levantine newspapers; foreign architects; Levantine run theatres, cinemas, Levantine football clubs; Levantine composers; the changes in the composition of local Levantines and their legacy today.

Presentations can be in English or Turkish.

Projected time-table:

- 1- Cut-off date for call for papers 31 July 2016
- 2- Confirmation of selection of presentations 15 August 2016.
- 3- Final date for final abstract / powerpoint presentations 1 September 2016.

For further information on this conference please refer to our site <http://www.levantineheritage.com/>

To submit an abstract or to explore ways in which you can help either as a sponsor or helper, please e-mail us: [lhf-ist@levantineheritagefoundation.org](mailto:lhf-ist@levantineheritagefoundation.org)

The organising committee of LHF-Istanbul:

Nuri olakođlu, Craig Encer, Jonathan Beard, Zeynep Cebeci Suvari, Emin Saati, Luis Miguel Selvelli, Selva Suman