

# Holy Fools In Byzantium And Beyond Oxford Studies In Byzantium

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Die autokratische Herrschaft im Moskauer Reich in der 'Zeit der Wirren' 1598-1613  
Dittmar Dahlmann  
2019-12-09 Eine der krisenhaftesten Epochen

der russischen Geschichte - die 'Zeit der Wirren' - ebnete den Weg für eine uneingeschränkte Selbstherrschaft der Zaren im Moskauer Reich. Dieser Band präsentiert

die russische Autokratie von 1598 bis 1613 und setzt damalige Machtverhältnisse in Moskowien in einen interkulturellen Kontext. Die 'Zeit der Wirren' als Epoche einer tiefen dynastischen und sozialen Krise wird aus historischer, klimatologischer sowie aus der Perspektive der deutschsprachigen Zeitzeugenberichte beleuchtet. Das Phänomen der Moskauer Autokratie wird der autokratischen Herrschaft in China entgegengesetzt. Umfassend erläutert - unter anderem an den Beispielen Boris Godunovs und des schwedischen Prinzen Karl Filip - werden die Strategien der Herrschaftslegitimation, die sich zwischen der altrussischen Traditionsordnung der Starina und der Ausrufung zur Herrschaft bewegten. This volume presents results on the Russian autocracy during the 'Time of Troubles' 1598-1613 and places the power relations in Muscovy in an

intercultural context. The 'Time of Troubles' as an epoch of a deep dynastic and social crisis is illuminated not only from a historical but also from a climatological as well as from the perspective of German-language eyewitness accounts. The phenomenon of Moscow autocracy is compared to autocratic rule in China. Extensive descriptions - including the examples of Boris Godunov and the Swedish prince Karl Filip - explain the strategies of empowerment that moved between the ancient Russian tradition of the Starina and the proclamation of power.

### **Holy Fools in Byzantium and Beyond**

Sergey A. Ivanov 2006-04-06 The image of St Basil's Cathedral in Moscow's Red Square is a familiar Russian landmark. Yet few people know what made Basil so famous. He was a saint who wandered about naked, bullied passers-by, brawled in the market-place, and once even smashed a

revered icon. Saints such as Basil overturn the conventional concept of sainthood - what, we may ask, is saintly about them? This book aims to solve the mystery by exploring the figure of the holy fool in Byzantium and in later Russian history.

Gottes Werk und Teufels Wirken Bettina Krönung 2014-02-27 Bei dieser Monographie handelt es sich um eine umfassende Darstellung von imaginären Phänomenen wie Träumen, Visionen und Ekstasen innerhalb der frühbyzantinischen monastischen Literatur. Auf einer breiten Quellenbasis wird das Phänomen nach seiner literarischen Verarbeitung und den sich darin widerspiegelnden kulturgeschichtlichen Hintergründen untersucht. In vier Kapiteln (1. "Aspekte von imaginären Erfahrungen in der monastischen Literatur"; 2. "Bewusstseinszustände und imaginäre Erfahrungen"; 3. "Terminologische und

formale Aspekte der imaginären Erfahrungen"; 4. "Vom heidnischen Mantiker zum christlichen Charismatiker") wird die weitreichende Bedeutung imaginärer Erfahrungen innerhalb und außerhalb des monastischen Umfelds sowie der Umgang mit der Thematik vonseiten der sich in der behandelten Zeit etablierenden christlichen Kirche aufgezeigt. Dabei werden verschiedene überkommene Meinungen in der Wissenschaft modifiziert (z.B. Definitionen von Begriffen wie "Vision", "Erscheinung" oder "Traum") und neue Gesichtspunkte erschlossen (z. B. Die Bedeutung der imaginären Erfahrung für die Entwicklung von der ortsgebundenen [inkubatorischen] hin zur ortsungebundenen Traumheilung).

*Dreaming in Byzantium and Beyond* George T. Calofonos 2016-05-13 Although the actual dreaming experience of the Byzantines lies beyond our reach, the remarkable number of

dream narratives in the surviving sources of the period attests to the cardinal function of dreams as vehicles of meaning, and thus affords modern scholars access to the wider cultural fabric of symbolic representations of the Byzantine world. Whether recounting real or invented dreams, the narratives serve various purposes, such as political and religious agendas, personal aspirations or simply an author's display of literary skill. It is only in recent years that Byzantine dreaming has attracted scholarly attention, and important publications have suggested the way in which Byzantines reshaped ancient interpretative models and applied new perceptions to the functions of dreams. This book - the first collection of studies on Byzantine dreams to be published - aims to demonstrate further the importance of closely examining dreams in Byzantium in their wider

historical and cultural, as well as narrative, context. Linked by this common thread, the essays offer insights into the function of dreams in hagiography, historiography, rhetoric, epistolography, and romance. They explore gender and erotic aspects of dreams; they examine cross-cultural facets of dreaming, provide new readings, and contextualize specific cases; they also look at the Greco-Roman background and Islamic influences of Byzantine dreams and their Christianization. The volume provides a broad variety of perspectives, including those of psychoanalysis and anthropology.

**The Routledge History of Madness and Mental**

**Health** Greg Eghigian  
2017-04-07 The Routledge History of Madness and Mental Health explores the history and historiography of madness from the ancient and medieval worlds to the present day. Global in scope, it includes

case studies from Africa, Asia, and South America as well as Europe and North America, drawing together the latest scholarship and source material in this growing field and allowing for fresh comparisons to be made across time and space. Thematically organised and written by leading academics, chapters discuss broad topics such as the representation of madness in literature and the visual arts, the material culture of madness, the perpetual difficulty of creating a classification system for madness and mental health, madness within life histories, the increased globalisation of knowledge and treatment practices, and the persistence of spiritual and supernatural conceptualisations of experiences associated with madness. This volume also examines the challenges involved in analysing primary sources in this area and how key themes such as

class, gender, and race have influenced the treatment and diagnosis of madness throughout history. Chronologically and geographically wide-ranging, and providing a fascinating overview of the current state of the field, this is essential reading for all students of the history of madness, mental health, psychiatry, and medicine.

*Greek East and Latin West* Andrew Louth 2007

**John Moschos' Spiritual Meadow** Brenda Llewellyn

Ihssen 2016-05-06 John Moschos' Spiritual

Meadow is one of the most important sources for late sixth-early seventh century

Palestinian, Syrian and Egyptian monasticism.

This undisputedly invaluable collection of beneficial tales provides contemporary society with a fuller picture of an imperfect social history of this period: it is a rich source for understanding not only the piety of the monk but also the poor farmer. Brenda Llewellyn Ihssen fills a

lacuna in classical monastic secondary literature by highlighting Moschos' unique contribution to the way in which a fertile Christian theology informed the ethics of not only those serving at the altar but also those being served. Introducing appropriate historical and theological background to the tales, Llewellyn Ihssen demonstrates how Moschos' tales addresses issues of the autonomy of individual ascetics and lay persons in relationship with authority figures. Economic practices, health care, death and burials of lay persons and ascetics are examined for the theology and history that they obscure and reveal. Whilst teaching us about the complicated relationships between personal agency and divine intercession, Moschos' tales can also be seen to reveal liminal boundaries we know existed between the secular and the religious.

**Ewige Jugend** Robert P. Harrison 2015-08-24 Man ist nur so alt wie man sich fühlt - stimmt das? Unser Geburtsjahr sagt noch lange nichts darüber aus, wie es um unseren Körper steht oder wie wir selbst und andere Menschen uns wahrnehmen. Unser Alter, so Robert P. Harrison, hängt von der Welt ab, in der wir leben. Unsere Welt treibt einen verhängnisvollen Kult um die Jugend. Wenn eine alternde Gesellschaft die ewige Jugend für sich reklamiert, gibt es am Ende überhaupt keine Jugend mehr. Literatur und Philosophie liefern Harrison reiches Material für originelle Denkanstöße, immer ist bei ihm die Lust am Lesen auch die Lust zu denken. Sein Buch ist eine Kulturgeschichte des Alterns und meinungsstarke Gegenwartsdiagnose zugleich.

Cynicism Ansgar Allen 2020-05-05 A short history of cynicism, from the fearless speech of the ancient Greeks to the jaded negativity of

the present. Everyone's a cynic, yet few will admit it. Today's cynics excuse themselves half-heartedly—"I hate to be a cynic, but..."—before making their pronouncements. Narrowly opportunistic, always on the take, contemporary cynicism has nothing positive to contribute. The Cynicism of the ancient Greeks, however, was very different. This Cynicism was a marginal philosophy practiced by a small band of eccentrics. Bold and shameless, it was committed to transforming the values on which civilization depends. In this volume of the MIT Press Essential Knowledge series, Ansgar Allen charts the long history of cynicism, from the "fearless speech" of Greek Cynics in the fourth century BCE to the contemporary cynic's lack of social and political convictions. Allen describes ancient Cynicism as an improvised philosophy and a way of life disposed to scandalize

contemporaries, subjecting their cultural commitments to derision. He chronicles the subsequent "purification" of Cynicism by the Stoics; Renaissance and Enlightenment appropriations of Cynicism, drawing on the writings of Shakespeare, Rabelais, Rousseau, de Sade, and others; and the transition from Cynicism (the philosophy) to cynicism (the modern attitude), exploring contemporary cynicism from the perspectives of its leftist, liberal, and conservative critics. Finally, he considers the possibility of a radical cynicism that admits and affirms the danger it poses to contemporary society.

### **Religion in Contemporary**

**European Cinema** Costica Bradatan 2014-02-18 The religious landscape in Europe is changing dramatically. While the authority of institutional religion has weakened, a growing number of people now desire individualized

religious and spiritual experiences, finding the self-complacency of secularism unfulfilling. The "crisis of religion" is itself a form of religious life. A sense of complex, subterranean interaction between religious, heterodox, secular and atheistic experiences has thus emerged, which makes the phenomenon all the more fascinating to study, and this is what Religion in Contemporary European Cinema does. The book explores the mutual influences, structural analogies, shared dilemmas, as well as the historical roots of such a "post-secular constellation" as seen through the lens of European cinema. Bringing together scholars from film theory and political science, ethics and philosophy of religion, philosophy of film and theology, this volume casts new light on the relationship between the religious and secular experience after the death of the death of

God.

*Architecture and Ritual in the Churches of Constantinople* Vasileios Marinis 2014-01-13 This book examines the interchange of architecture and ritual in the Middle and Late Byzantine churches of Constantinople (ninth to fifteenth centuries). It employs archaeological and archival data, hagiographic and historical sources, liturgical texts and commentaries, and monastic typika and testaments to integrate the architecture of the medieval churches of Constantinople with liturgical and extra-liturgical practices and their continuously evolving social and cultural context. The book argues against the approach that has dominated Byzantine studies: that of functional determinism, the view that architectural form always follows liturgical function. Instead, proceeding chapter by chapter through the spaces of

the Byzantine church, it investigates how architecture responded to the exigencies of the rituals, and how church spaces eventually acquired new uses. The church building is described in the context of the culture and people whose needs it was continually adapted to serve. Rather than viewing churches as frozen in time (usually the time when the last brick was laid), this study argues that they were social constructs and so were never finished, but continually evolving.

**The Firebird and the Fox**

Jeffrey Brooks

2019-09-30 A century of Russian artistic genius, including literature, art, music and dance, within the dynamic cultural ecosystem that shaped it.

*Scham und Schamlosigkeit*

Katja Gvozdeva

2012-01-01 Shame and shamelessness are subject to different conditions for their enactment: While shame manifests bodily what the individual wants to

hide, shamelessness by contrast appears as ostentation. However, both have in common the status of the staged and perceived boundary violation. From this action-oriented perspective, the essays in this interdisciplinary book explore the different forms of staging and functions of shame and shamelessness in literature, art, theater and the social communication of the Early Modern Age.

**Refiguring Theological Hermeneutics**

M. Grau

2014-12-17 Grau reconsiders the relationship between "logos" and "mythos" as a precondition to opening theological hermeneutics to discourse from other cultures and genres, other modes of telling and retelling.

*The Russian Empire*

1450-1801 Nancy Shields

Kollmann 2017-02-09

Modern Russian identity and historical experience has been largely shaped by Russia's imperial past:

an empire that was founded in the early modern era and endures in large part today. The Russian Empire 1450-1801 surveys how the areas that made up the empire were conquered and how they were governed. It considers the Russian empire a 'Eurasian empire', characterized by a 'politics of difference': the rulers and their elites at the center defined the state's needs minimally - with control over defense, criminal law, taxation, and mobilization of resources - and otherwise tolerated local religions, languages, cultures, elites, and institutions. The center related to communities and religions vertically, according each a modicum of rights and autonomies, but didn't allow horizontal connections across nobilities, townsmen, or other groups potentially with common interests to coalesce. Thus, the Russian empire was multi-ethnic and multi-

religious; Nancy Kollmann gives detailed attention to the major ethnic and religious groups, and surveys the government's strategies of governance - centralized bureaucracy, military reform, and a changed judicial system. The volume pays particular attention to the dissemination of a supranational ideology of political legitimacy in a variety of media - written sources and primarily public ritual, painting, and particularly architecture. Beginning with foundational features, such as geography, climate, demography, and geopolitical situation, The Russian Empire 1450-1801 explores the empire's primarily agrarian economy, serfdom, towns and trade, as well as the many religious groups - primarily Orthodoxy, Islam, and Buddhism. It tracks the emergence of an 'Imperial nobility' and a national self-consciousness that was, by the end of the

eighteenth century, distinctly imperial, embracing the diversity of the empire's many peoples and cultures.

**The Oxford Handbook of Late Antiquity** Scott Johnson 2015-11-01 The Oxford Handbook of Late Antiquity offers an innovative overview of a period (c. 300–700 CE) that has become increasingly central to scholarly debates over the history of western and Middle Eastern civilizations. This volume covers such pivotal events as the fall of Rome, the rise of Christianity, the origins of Islam, and the early formation of Byzantium and the European Middle Ages. These events are set in the context of widespread literary, artistic, cultural, and religious change during the period. The geographical scope of this Handbook is unparalleled among comparable surveys of Late Antiquity; Arabia, Egypt, Central Asia, and the Balkans all receive dedicated treatments,

while the scope extends to the western kingdoms, and North Africa in the West. Furthermore, from economic theory and slavery to Greek and Latin poetry, Syriac and Coptic literature, sites of religious devotion, and many others, this Handbook covers a wide range of topics that will appeal to scholars from a diverse array of disciplines. The Oxford Handbook of Late Antiquity engages the perennially valuable questions about the end of the ancient world and the beginning of the medieval, while providing a much-needed touchstone for the study of Late Antiquity itself.

Varieties of Monastic Experience in Byzantium, 800–1453 Alice-Mary Talbot 2019-04-30 In this unprecedented introduction to Byzantine monasticism, based on the Conway Lectures she delivered at the University of Notre Dame in 2014, Alice-Mary Talbot surveys the various forms of monastic life

in the Byzantine Empire between the ninth and fifteenth centuries. It includes chapters on male monastic communities (mostly cenobitic, but some idiorrhythmic in late Byzantium), nuns and nunneries, hermits and holy mountains, and a final chapter on alternative forms of monasticism, including recluses, stylites, wandering monks, holy fools, nuns disguised as monks, and unaffiliated monks and nuns. This original monograph does not attempt to be a history of Byzantine monasticism but rather emphasizes the multiplicity of ways in which Byzantine men and women could devote their lives to service to God, with an emphasis on the tension between the two basic modes of monastic life, cenobitic and eremitic. It stresses the individual character of each Byzantine monastic community in contrast to the monastic orders of the Western medieval world, and yet at the same time

demonstrates that there were more connections between certain groups of monasteries than previously realized. The most original sections include an in-depth analysis of the challenges facing hermits in the wilderness, and special attention to enclosed monks (recluses) and urban monks and nuns who lived independently outside of monastic complexes. Throughout, Talbot highlights some of the distinctions between the monastic life of men and women, and makes comparisons of Byzantine monasticism with its Western medieval counterpart. Myriobiblos Theodora Antonopoulou 2015-03-10 This volume presents a broad array of contributions on Byzantine literature and culture, in which well-known Byzantinists approach topics of ceremonial, education, historiography, hagiography, homiletics, law, philology, philosophy, prosopography, rhetoric

and theology. New editions and analyses of texts and documents are included. The essays combine traditional scholarship with newer approaches, thus reflecting the current dynamics of the field.

**Humour and Religion** Hans Geybels 2011-03-17  
Leading scholars analyze the importance and functioning of humor in different world religions.

**Das Leben der Anderen im Gemenge der**

**Weisheitswege** Christian Kaiser 2013-01-01  
Diogenes Laertios's collection of biographical sketches of the great philosophers is an important document for the history of ancient philosophy. During the Renaissance, the "rediscovery" of this text led to literary creations, which substantially contributed to shaping the idea of the "modern" in the Early Modern Period. This study illustrates the multidimensional impact of the Lives on Byzantine traditions and

the Italian Quattrocento.

**Literature and Catholicism in the 19th and 20th Centuries** David Torevell 2021-03-05  
This volume investigates how literary texts have reflected, in ground-breaking ways, distinctive features of a Catholic philosophy of life. It demonstrates how literature, by its ability to capture the imagination, is able to evoke facets of human experience related specifically to a Catholic understanding of life.

**The Holy Fool in European Cinema** Alina G. Birzache 2016-02-05  
This monograph explores the way that the profile and the critical functions of the holy fool have developed in European cinema, allowing this traditional figure to capture the imagination of new generations in an age of religious pluralism and secularization. Alina Birzache traces the cultural origins of the figure of the holy fool across a variety of

European traditions. In so doing, she examines the critical functions of the holy fool as well as how filmmakers have used the figure to respond to and critique aspects of the modern world. Using a comparative approach, this study for the first time offers a comprehensive explanation of the enduring appeal of this protean and fascinating cinematic character. Birzache examines the trope of holy foolishness in Soviet and post-Soviet cinema, French cinema, and Danish cinema, corresponding broadly to and permitting analysis of the three main orientations in European Christianity: Orthodox, Catholic, and Protestant. This study will be of keen interest to scholars of religion and film, European cinema, and comparative religion.

#### Ethos und Pathos

Riccardo Nicolosi 2017  
Das dynamische Wechsel- und Spannungsverhältnis von Ethos und Pathos in

den Medien des 20. Jahrhunderts, von der Literatur über die bildende und die Körperkunst bis hin zu Radio und Film, steht im Zentrum dieses Buches. Als komplementäre Kategorien der antiken Affektenlehre, die auf eine lange rhetorische und bildliche Tradition zurückblicken, haben Ethos und Pathos einen zentralen Anteil an der Formierung unterschiedlicher Wirkungsästhetiken in den modernen Medien. In ihrem Zusammenwirken, aber auch im Konflikt miteinander prägen sie die medialen Modellierungen politischer Ziele, Ideologien und ästhetischer Programme. Die Beiträge beleuchten in komparatistischer Perspektive verschiedene Ausprägungen medialer Wirkungsästhetik in den Kulturen Ost- und Westeuropas sowie Nordamerikas.

#### **Anchoritism in the Middle Ages**

Catherine Innes-Parker 2013-04-15  
This volume explores medieval anchoritism

(the life of a solitary religious recluse) from a variety of perspectives. The individual essays conceive anchoritism in broadly interpretive categories: challenging perceived notions of the very concept of anchoritic 'rule' and guidance; studying the interaction between language and linguistic forms; addressing the connection between anchoritism and other forms of solitude (particularly in European tales of sanctity); and exploring the influence of anchoritic literature on lay devotion. As a whole, the volume illuminates the richness and fluidity of anchoritic texts and contexts and shows how anchoritism pervaded the spirituality of the Middle Ages, for lay and religious alike. It moves through both space and time, ranging from the third century to the sixteenth, from England to the Continent and back.

### **Holy Fools in Byzantium**

**and Beyond** 2006

*Pussy Riot* Eliot

Borenstein 2020-11-12

Both more and less than a band, Pussy Riot is continually misunderstood by the Western media. This book sets the record straight. After their scandalous performance of an anti-Putin protest song in Moscow's Cathedral of Christ the Savior and the imprisonment of two of its members, the punk feminist art collective known as Pussy Riot became an international phenomenon. But, what, exactly, is Pussy Riot, and what are they trying to achieve? The award-winning author Eliot Borenstein explores the movement's explosive history and takes you beyond the hype.

**The Ashgate Research Companion to Byzantine Hagiography** Stephanos

Efthymiadis 2020-02-25

For an entire millennium, Byzantine hagiography, inspired by the veneration of many saints, exhibited literary dynamism and a capacity to vary its

basic forms. The subgenres into which it branched out after its remarkable start in the fourth century underwent alternating phases of development and decline that were intertwined with changes in the political, social and literary spheres. The selection of saintly heroes, an interest in depicting social landscapes, and the modulation of linguistic and stylistic registers captured the voice of homo byzantinus down to the end of the empire in the fifteenth century. The seventeen chapters in this companion form the sequel to those in volume I which dealt with the periods and regions of Byzantine hagiography, and complete the first comprehensive survey ever produced in this field. The book is the work of an international group of experts in the field and is addressed to both a broader public and the scholarly community of Byzantinists, medievalists, historians

of religion and theorists of narrative. It highlights the literary dimension and the research potential of a representative number of texts, not only those appreciated by the Byzantines themselves but those which modern readers rank high due to their literary quality or historical relevance.

### **The Living Icon in Byzantium and Italy**

Paroma Chatterjee

2014-03-17 Explores the

development and

diffusion of the vita

image which emerged in

Byzantium in the twelfth

century and spread to

Italy and beyond.

2006/2007 2011-09-15 Die

seit 1971 wieder

erscheinende,

interdisziplinäre,

internationale

Rezensionsbibliographie

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Sozialwissenschaften

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wissenschaftlichen

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60.000 Eintragungen  
kommen jedes Jahr hinzu,  
bieten dem Benutzer  
Daten zum rezensierten  
Werk und zur Rezension.  
*Holy Fools in Byzantium  
and Beyond* 2006

**Chosen Places:**

**Constructing New  
Jerusalems in Slavia  
Orthodoxa**

Jelena  
Erdeljan 2017-06-21 In  
Chosen Places,  
Constructing New  
Jerusalems in Slavia  
Orthodoxa, Jelena  
Erdeljan examines the  
Old Testament topic of  
the divinely-chosen  
status of Jerusalem and  
the phenomenon of  
translatio Hierosolymi  
in visual culture, based  
on the examples of  
Constantinople, Turnovo,  
Belgrade, and Moscow.  
*Helfendes Handeln im  
Spannungsfeld  
theologischer  
Begründungsansätze*  
Christoph Sigrist  
2014-01-01 Helfendes  
Handeln wird in  
kirchlichen und  
diakonischen Werken  
vielfach mit Diakonie  
beschrieben. Wie kann  
und soll dieses helfende  
Handeln in theologischer

Perspektive begründet  
werden? Und wie geht man  
mit der Vielfalt  
unterschiedlicher  
Begründungen um? Der  
Band zeigt auf, dass das  
Wesentliche der Diakonie  
im helfenden Handeln als  
solchem liegt. Helfendes  
Handeln wird schon seit  
biblischer Zeit  
unterschiedlich  
begründet, doch sind  
alle Begründungen  
kritisch daraufhin zu  
prüfen, dass sie nicht  
christlich motiviertes  
Helfen als überlegen  
gegenüber anders  
motiviertem Helfen  
deklarieren. Denn Helfen  
ist etwas Allgemein-  
Menschliches. Die  
Beiträge berücksichtigen  
neben exegetischen und  
systematisch-  
theologischen Zugängen  
auch konfessionelle,  
transkonfessionelle und  
interreligiöse  
Perspektiven.\*\*  
*Religiöse Grenzgänger im  
östlichen Europa*  
Ekatarina Emeliantseva  
Koller 2018-11-12 Die  
Warschauer Anhänger des  
jüdischen Pseudomessias  
Jakob Frank und die  
Glaubensenthusiasten um  
die St. Petersburger

Prophetin Ekaterina Tatarinova pflegten kirchliche und außerkirchliche sowie rabbinische und nicht-rabbinische religiöse Praxen zugleich. Aus vergleichender lebensweltlicher und mikrohistorischer Betrachtung entwickelt die Autorin das Konzept der 'situativen Religiosität', um die Selbstverortungsstrategien dieser Gläubigen zu beschreiben. Das Konzept bricht das vorgelagerte Verständnis von homogenen religiösen Identitäten auf und zeigt die Gleichzeitigkeit mehrfacher religiöser Identitäten als besonderes Phänomen der Epoche am Vorabend der religiös pluralistischen Industriegesellschaften ohne diese Identitäten als marginal, deviant oder korrupt zu lokalisieren.

*Eastern Orthodox Christianity* Bryn Geffert 2016-01-01 An essential, one-of-a-kind reader, this book frames, explores, and interprets Eastern

Orthodoxy through primary sources. It is the first comprehensive reader on the Eastern Orthodox Church for the English-speaking world and is accessible to readers with no prior knowledge of theology or religious history. Lively introductions and short narratives touch on anthropology, art, law, literature, music, politics, women's studies, and a host of other areas. These texts are brought together to survey the fascinating history of the Eastern Orthodox Christian tradition--From back cover.

Dreams, Memory and Imagination in Byzantium

Bronwen Neil 2018-08-23 This collection of studies on Dreams, Memory and Imagination in Byzantium reveals the distinctive and important roles of memory, imagination and dreams in the Byzantine court, the proto-Orthodox church and broader society from Constantinople to Syria and beyond

**Human Perfection in**

## **Byzantine Theology**

Alexis Torrance

2020-10-16 To what kind of existence does Christ call us? Christian theology has from its inception posited a powerful vision of humanity's ultimate and eternal fulfilment through the person and work of Jesus Christ. How precisely to understand and approach the human perfection to which the Christian is summoned is a question that has vexed the minds of many and diverse theologians. Orthodox Christian theology is notable for its consistent interest in this question, and over the last century has offered to the West a wealth of theological insight on the matter, drawn both from the resources of its Byzantine theological heritage as well as its living interaction with Western theological and philosophical currents. In this regard, the important themes of personhood, deification, epektasis, apophaticism, and divine energies have

been elaborated with much success by Orthodox theologians; but not without controversy. Human Perfection in Byzantine Theology addresses the question of human perfection in Orthodox theology via a retrieval of the sources, examining in turn the thought of leading representatives of the Byzantine theological tradition: St Maximus the Confessor, St Theodore the Studite, St Symeon the New Theologian, and St Gregory Palamas. The overarching argument of this study is that in order to present an Orthodox Christian understanding of human perfection which remains true to its Byzantine inheritance, supreme emphasis must be placed on the doctrine of Christ, especially on the significance and import of Christ's humanity. The intention of this work is thus to keep the creative approach to human destiny in Orthodox theology firmly moored to its theological past.

*Fools and idiots?* Irina Metzler 2016-02-01 This is the first book devoted to the cultural history in the pre-modern period of people we now describe as having learning disabilities. Using an interdisciplinary approach, including historical semantics, medicine, natural philosophy and law, it considers a neglected field of social and medical history and makes an original contribution to the problem of a shifting concept such as 'idiotcy'. Medieval physicians, lawyers and the schoolmen of the emerging universities wrote the texts which shaped medieval definitions of intellectual ability and its counterpart, disability. In studying such texts, which form part of our contemporary scientific and cultural heritage, we gain a better understanding of which people were considered to be intellectually disabled and how their

participation and inclusion in society differed from the situation today. *The Scriptural Universe of Ancient Christianity* Guy G. Stroumsa 2016-11-14 Perhaps more than any other cause, the passage of texts from scroll to codex in late antiquity converted the Roman Empire from paganism to Christianity and enabled the worldwide spread of Christian faith. Guy Stroumsa describes how canonical scripture was established and how its interpretation replaced blood sacrifice in religious ritual.

### **Brother-Making in Late Antiquity and Byzantium**

Claudia Rapp 2016-02-01 Among medieval Christian societies, Byzantium is unique in preserving an ecclesiastical ritual of adelphopoiesis, which pronounces two men, not related by birth, as brothers for life. It has its origin as a spiritual blessing in the monastic world of late antiquity, and it becomes a popular social networking strategy

among lay people from the ninth century onwards, even finding application in recent times. Located at the intersection of religion and society, brother-making exemplifies how social practice can become ritualized and subsequently subjected to attempts of ecclesiastical and legal control.

Controversially, adelphopoiesis was at the center of a modern debate about the existence of same-sex unions in medieval Europe. This book, the first ever comprehensive history of this unique feature of Byzantine life, argues persuasively that the ecclesiastical ritual to bless a relationship between two men bears no resemblance to marriage. Wide-ranging in its use of sources, from a complete census of the manuscripts containing the ritual of adelphopoiesis to the literature and archaeology of early monasticism, and from the works of

hagiographers, historiographers, and legal experts in Byzantium to comparative material in the Latin West and the Slavic world, *Brother-Making in Late Antiquity and Byzantium* examines the fascinating religious and social features of the ritual, shedding light on little known aspects of Byzantine society.

*Körperkommunikation*  
Daniela Mathuber  
2022-02-14 Das Auftreten falscher Mitglieder der Dynastie (russ. samozvanstvo) im Moskauer und Russländischen Reich wurde in der Vergangenheit meist als Form von Protest gedeutet. Im Unterschied dazu nähert sich die Studie aus kulturgeschichtlicher Perspektive an und fragt: Aus welchen Quellen speiste sich das kulturelle Wissen, das samozvancy und samozvanki benötigten, um überhaupt auftreten zu können? Was war über frühere Fälle bekannt und wie wurden solche

Informationen weitergegeben? Welche Faktoren entschieden, ob ein vermeintliches Mitglied der Dynastie als echt akzeptiert wurde? Es wird gezeigt, dass das performative Verhalten falscher Mitglieder der Dynastie auf der einen Seite von

der Erfordernis bestimmt war, glaubwürdig zu sein und auf der anderen Seite von dem Versuch, von den Behörden unbemerkt zu bleiben. Beides macht es schwierig, dem Phänomen eine politische Stoßrichtung zuzuschreiben.