



# TRAVELLERS IN OTTOMAN LANDS

**PLACES FORGOTTEN, PLACES REMEMBERED**  
**ISTANBUL, 9–12 APRIL 2025**

Draft Programme as of 6 April

Wednesday, 9 April 2025

**08.30–09.15**    **Registration Desk open.**  
**Tea and coffee available**

**auditorium**  
**ANAMED/NIT**

## **Session 01. Introduction and Keynote Address I**

**09.15–09.30**    Welcomes by Paul Starkey on behalf of the TIOL3 Organising Committee; and by Marloes Cornelissen Aydemir, Peter Cherry, Fokke Gerritsen & Zeynep Simavi

### ***Keynote Address I***

Chair: **Zeynep Simavi**, Istanbul Branch Director, American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT), TIOL Committee member

**09.30–10.30**    *The Camera and the Notebook: photographic excursions in late Ottoman illustrated journals*, **Ahmet Ersoy**, Boğaziçi University, Istanbul, Türkiye

**10.30–11.15**    **15-minute walk from ANAMED/NIT to Minerva Han, Karaköy**

**10.30–11.15**    **Tea and coffee. Registration Desk open**

**Minerva Han**

### **Session 02a. Ottoman lands through the lens: art and architecture**

Chair: **Zeynep Simavi**, Istanbul Branch Director, American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT). TIOL Committee member

- 11.15–11.35 *Unknown Cilicia through a Hungarian Camera*, **Gábor Fodor**, Ottoman Studies Research Group at the Institute of History - Research Centre for the Humanities, Hungarian Research Network, Budapest, Hungary
- 11.35–11.55 *'He Painted as an Architect, and he Built as a Painter': Le Corbusier's travel to Turkey*, **Gertrud Olsson**, HDK-Valand Design Unit – Academy of Art & Design, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden
- 11.55–12.15 *Layered Perspectives: travel albums of nineteenth-century Istanbul*, **Sibel Acar**, TOBB University of Economy and Technology, Ankara, Türkiye

### **Session 02b. Travel Routes and Destinations**

Chair: **Paul Starkey**, Professor Emeritus, Durham University, Durham, UK. TIOL Chair & committee member

- 11.15–11.35 *Mapping Sixteenth-Century English Travel Routes in the Ottoman Empire*, **Uygar Aydemir & Merve Nur Othman**, Department of History, Üsküdar University, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 11.35–11.55 *On the Wings of Travelogues: Ottoman cultural heritage of the cities in the Klis sancak*, **Frane Prpa & Ana Torlak**, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, The University of Split, Split, Croatia
- 11.55–12.15 *Late Ottoman Tunis by Train: ruler visibility and colonial invisibility. The TGM (Tunis-Goulette-Marsa) and Bône-Guelma railway networks in juxtaposition*, **Oumaïma Jaïdane-Yıldız**, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Türkiye
- 12.30–13.45 **Lunch break at Mahkeme Lokantası followed by sessions at Minerva Han**

### Session 03a. Architectural insights

Chair: **Firuzan Melike Sümertaş**, Postdoctorate Scholar at ANAMED, Istanbul, Türkiye

- 14.00–14.20 *The Narrative of Architecture and Medieval Aesthetics in Bertrandon De La Brocquière's Travels to Jerusalem and Constantinople*, **Esin Korkut Savul**, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Türkiye
- 14.20–14.40 *'The Most Regular and the Best Made of All': insights from early modern travellers' accounts of Ottoman royal tombs*, **Ahmet Sezgin**, Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture, MEF University, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 14.40–15.00 *Byzantine Architecture Reimagined: Charles Texier, Richard Popplewell Pullan and the Western gaze on the Cappadocian landscape*, **Sena Kurçenli Koyunlu**, Azrieli School of Architecture & Urbanism, Carleton University, Ottawa, ON, Canada; **Stephen Fai**, Carleton Immersive Media Studio, Carleton University, Ottawa, ON, Canada
- 15.00–15.20 *The Exploration of Architectural Spolia in Charles Texier's Œuvre on Anatolia*, **Hale Gönül & Fatma Sinem Özgür**, Department of Architecture, Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul, Türkiye

### Session 03b. Travellers in search of knowledge

Chair: **Janet Starkey**, Lecturer in Middle Eastern Studies, u3a and Durham University (retired). TIOL committee member

- 14.00–14.20 *European 'Tourists' and their Guides: sightseeing activity in early modern Bursa*, **Ekin Can Göksoy**, Istanbul Research Institute (İstanbul Araştırmaları Enstitüsü), Istanbul, Türkiye
- 14.20–14.40 *Botanical Pursuits and Maritime Realities: Tournefort's expedition to the Aegean Islands (1700–1701)*, **Aristide Chryssooulis**, Faculty of History, University of Cambridge (Peterhouse), Cambridge, UK
- 14.40–15.00 *Constantinople Seen and Reviewed through the Eyes of a Nineteenth-Century Diplomat and Journalist: Antonio Baratta*, **Consuelo Emilj Malara**, Hacettepe University, Ankara, Türkiye & **Luca Orlandi**, Özyeğin University, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 15.00–15.20 *Ivan Bunin in Istanbul: the anxious travel, decay, and nostalgia of Bird's Shadow*, **Evan Alterman**, Department of Comparative Literature, Koç University, Istanbul, Türkiye

**Session 04a. Antiquities and archaeological scholars**

Chair: **Fokke Gerritsen**, Director, Nederlands Instituut in Turkije (NIT). TIOL

Committee member

- 16.00–16.20 *Tracing Antiquity: Count von Ulfeldt's Great Embassy to Constantinople in 1740 and the reception of ancient heritage*, **Maria Baramova & Ivan Valchev**, Sofia University 'St. Kliment Ohridski', Sofia, Bulgaria
- 16.20–16.40 *The Cesnola Brothers and their Controversial Antiquities Exports from Ottoman Cyprus: defying Ottoman firmans, antiquities laws, and the Imperial Museum through Italian, American and Russian identities*, **Ozan Hüseyin**, History of Art and Archaeology, SOAS, University of London, London, UK
- 16.40–17.00 *Edward Falkener in Anatolia: an architectural scholar between Classicism and Orientalism*, **Sebastian Marshall**, Schools of Classics and Art History, University of St Andrews, Scotland, UK
- 17.00–17.20 *Between Modern Musings and Living Tradition: the Turkish-Islamic monuments of Mehmed Ziya's late Ottoman landscape*, **Michelle Lynch-Köycü**, School of Architecture, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN, USA.

**Session 04b. Accommodation and culinary delights**

Chair: **Paul Starkey**, Professor Emeritus, Durham University, Durham, UK. TIOL

Chair & committee member

- 16.00–16.20 *Exploring Human Mobility: travellers and their accommodation in sixteenth-century Üsküdar*, **Mine Arslan**, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 16.20–16.40 *The Brewer and the Butler: 'Dutch' beer production and consumption in early modern Istanbul*, **Marloes Cornelissen Aydemir**, Foundation Development Directorate, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Türkiye. TIOL committee member
- 16.40–17.00 *'Avec la Fourchette du Père Adam': Ottoman cuisine as an indicator of civilisational status*, **Paul Csillag**, European University Institute in Florence, Italy
- 17.00–17.20 *The Making of a British Hotelier in nineteenth-century Istanbul*, **Carole Woodall**, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, CO, USA

Thursday, 10 April 2025

08.45–09.15 Registration and tea and coffee

auditorium ANAMED/ NIT

**Session 05. Keynote Address II**

Chair: **Peter Cherry**, Assistant Director at the British Institute at Ankara (BIAA), TIOL committee member

09.30–10.30 *Travel, Taste and Trend: fashion in women's travel writing and harem literature*, **Reina Lewis**, University of the Arts, London, UK

10.30–11.15 15-minute walk from ANAMED/NIT to Minerva Han, Karaköy

10.30–11.15 Tea, coffee and subsequent sessions at Minerva Han  
Registration Desk open at Minerva Han.

**Session 06a. Perceptions of women**

Chair: **Atacan Atakan**, Instructor, Foundation Development Directorate, Sabancı University; Istanbul Türkiye

- 11.15–11.35 *The Adventures of Regina Salomea Pilsztynowa in the Balkans and Istanbul: an exceptional case of a European woman's travels, enterprises and sociability in the eighteenth-century Ottoman Empire*, **Maxence Joscht**, Ecoles des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales E.H.E.S.S., University in Marseille, Marseille, France
- 11.35–11.55 *The Similar, the Strange and the Comparable: Jacob Jonas Björnståhl in Constantinople 1776–1779*, **Catharina Raudvere**, Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 11.55–12.15 *Gertrude Bell and the Tur Abdin: a remote area of Turkey through the eyes of a nineteenth-century British traveller*, **Pat Yale**, travel writer, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 12.15–12.35 *Colonial Exoticism Versus National Nostalgia in Early Twentieth-Century Travel Writing: a comparative reading of Trabzon in Isabella Bird and Mediha Kayra's Writings*, **Şennur Bakırtaş**, visiting scholar, San José State University, San Jose, CA, USA

**Session 06b. Memory, travel and resistance: reimagining the Ottoman Empire through an alternative topography**

Chair: **Richard Todd**, Lecturer, Department of Theology and Religion, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK

- 11.15–11.35 *The Imagined Lands of Ottoman Luxury and Exoticism in the Horoscope for Trebizond (1336–1337)*, **Simona Puca**, University of Naples ‘Federico II’, Naples, Italy
- 11.35–11.55 *Speculation on the Position of Troy in the Antiquarianism of the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Centuries: a corresponding Homeric question*, **Marina Guarente**, University of Naples ‘Federico II’, Naples, Italy
- 11.55–12.15 *From the Hôpital pour les maladies mentales de La Manouba to Berrechid system: on the border of the former Ottoman Empire, the places of psychiatry as scenarios of sociopolitical struggle*, **Stefano Stanca**, University of Naples ‘Federico II’, Naples, Italy
- 12.15–12.35 *Narrating an Ottoman Plague to Public versus Private Audiences in Europe: Domenico Sestini’s (1750–1832) contradictory testimonies of the 1778 Istanbul plague and the question of Ottoman Muslim fatalism*, **Mert Pekdoğdu**, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Türkiye

**12.45–13.30 Lunch**

**Minerva Han**

**Session 07a. Sacred and secular: cultural interactions in Ottoman Istanbul**

Chair: **Tommaso Stefini**, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Türkiye

- 14.00–14.20 *European Travellers in Ottoman Eyüp*, **Feray Coşkun**, Özyeğin University, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 14.20–14.40 *Summoned by the Sultan: Aḥmad Fāris al-Shidyāq and his pioneering newspaper al-Jawā’ib*, **Paul Starkey**, Durham University, Durham, UK. TIOL committee member and chair
- 14.40–15.00 *Jurjī Zaydān in Istanbul: a traveller in the post-revolutionary capital*, **Esra Taşdelen**, Graham School of Continuing Liberal and Professional Studies, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA
- 15.00–15.20 *Accidental Pilgrims: occult encounters in occupied Istanbul, 1918–1923*, **Daniel-Joseph MacArthur-Seal**, BIAA Assistant Director 2019 to 2023; Scuola Superiore Meridionale, Naples, Italy

### Session 07b. Diplomats, embassies and imperial attitudes

Chair: **Marloes Cornelissen Aydemir**, Instructor, Foundation Development Directorate, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Türkiye. TIOL committee member

- 14.00–14.20 *European Travellers and the Role of Local Embassy Staff as Travel Guides in Eighteenth-Century Istanbul*, **Rosanne M. Baars**, Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands
- 14.20–14.40 *The Grand Embassy of Count Oettingen (1700) along the Lower Danube: symbolic encounters with the Ottoman province*, **Maria Shusharova**, Institute for Balkan Studies with Centre for Thracology (IB&CT), Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria
- 14.40–15.00 *Questioning Imperial Attitudes in Thomas Thornton's Present State of Turkey (1809)*, **Suheyla-Hacer Sahin**, University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France
- 15.00–15.20 *Political Travellers in the Ottoman Empire, 1740–1820*, **Philip Mansel**, Levantine Heritage Foundation

### 15:30–16.00 Tea and coffee in Minerva Han

**With a Tea-Talk in Room (a)** *Boxing Day 1893, when 32,251 travellers descended on Constantinople*, **Andrew Finkel**, writer, journalist and *Cornucopia* contributor

### Session 08a. Spiritual and religious travellers

Chair: **Ines Aščerić-Todd**, Head of Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK. TIOL Committee member

- 16.00–16.20 *Monks and Monasteries, Real and Re-imagined, in the Travelogues and Poetry of the Seventeenth-Century Arab-Ottoman Sufi 'Abd al-Ghanī al-Nābulusī*, **Richard Todd**, Department of Theology and Religion, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK
- 16.20–16.40 *'Wonders of the World' and 'Pieces of Paradise': sightseeing on the Anatolian hajj road in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries*, **Yahya Nurgat**, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Türkiye
- 16.40–17.00 *The Mysterious Travels of Tahra Bey, Fakir, across the post-Ottoman Eastern Mediterranean*, **Raphael Cormack**, Department of Arabic, MLAC, Durham University, Durham, UK

### Session 08b. Encountering war

Chair: **Burhan İzgin**, Education Assistant, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Türkiye; PhD candidate, Istanbul University, Istanbul, Türkiye

- 16.00–16.20     *Local Battles in the Ottoman Province during the War of the Ottomans with the Holy League (1683–1699)*, **Dzheni Ivanova**, Institute for Historical Studies, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria
- 16.20–16.40     *Sultan Selim III and Mahmud II ‘Pulling a Long Bow’: foreign observations of Ottoman archery at the turn of the nineteenth century*, **Rik Janssen**, Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
- 16.40–17.00     *The ‘Ottoman provinces’ through the Eyes of Russian Officials, 1880 to 1910*, **Katya Vladimirov**, Kennesaw State University, Atlanta, GA, USA
- 17.00–17.20     *An American ‘War-Traveller’: Constantinople, Chanak Kale and Gallipoli during World War I in the memoirs of journalist Raymond Swing*, **Melike Tokay**, Department of American Culture and Literature, Başkent University, Ankara, Türkiye

### Session 09a. Special Guest Session

Chair: **Zeynep Simavi**, Istanbul Branch Director, American Research Institute in Turkey (ARIT), TIOL Committee member

- 17.30–18.15     *Places Misremembered: enslavement in Ottoman harems through the eyes of foreign women*, **Nancy Micklewright**, Special Guest Speaker, previously Head of Public and Scholarly Engagement at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of Asian Art, Washington DC, USA
- 18.30–20.00     **Evening Reception and a Celebration** of the publication of *Travellers in Ottoman Lands II: The Balkans, Anatolia and Beyond* and other publications

**Minerva Han**  
**6<sup>th</sup> floor**

Friday, 11 April 2025

Minerva Han

**Session 10a. Encountering Christian and Muslim communities**

Chair: **Ines Aščerić-Todd**, Head of Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK. TIOL committee member

- 09.30–09.50 *German envoys and travellers' reports on non-Muslim communities of the Ottoman empire*, **Konstantinos Sampanis & Dilara Kaplan**, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria
- 09.50–10.10 *Muscovites, Turks and their Boys: European travellers on Orthodox and Muslim sexual mores: Orientalism or Mediterranean model of male same sex desire?* **Hanna Filipova**, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden
- 10.10–10.30 *'Purses of Gold' and 'Syrian Princes': travels of Christian dignitaries from Ottoman lands to early eighteenth-century Scotland*, **Janet Starkey**, Lecturer in Middle Eastern Studies, U3a and Durham University (retired). TIOL committee member
- 10.30–10.50 *Notes of Exile: Monk Yūsuf As'ad from Nazareth to Mount Sinai*, **Vevian Zaki**, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich (LMU), Munich, Germany

**Session 10b. Merchants and bankers in socio-economic spaces**

Chair: **Mehmet Kuru**, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Türkiye

- 09.30–09.50 *Wordy Ambitions and a Quiet Career: an eighteenth-century Arab trader's involuntary homemaking in Istanbul*, **Björn Bentlage**, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
- 09.50–10.10 *Camondo: the rise and tragic end of a Jewish family*, **Cristina Erck**, independent scholar, Bonn, Germany
- 10.10–10.30 *The Travels of Robert Blair Munro Binning: exploring the nineteenth-century cultural landscape and socio-economic spaces of Ottoman Egypt and the Levant*, **Emine Sökmén Adalı**, Social Sciences University of Ankara, Ankara, Türkiye

**11.00–11.30** **Tea and coffee. Registration Desk open**

Minerva Han

### Session 11a. Encountering the Caucasus

Chair: **Berna Kamay-Ulusay**, Instructor, Foundations Development Directorate, Sabancı University. Istanbul, Türkiye

- 11.30–11.50    *'The Circassian Blood Fills the Veins of the Sultan': European travellers in the north-western Caucasus*, **Janet Nil Genç**, Leiden University, Leiden, The Netherlands
- 11.50–12.10    *Cultural Exchanges on the Borders of Empires: nineteenth-century Scottish missionaries in the Crimea*, **Ines Aščerić-Todd**, Department of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK. TIOL Committee member
- 12.10–12.30    *Through the Eyes of Travellers: refugee experiences in the late Ottoman Empire*, **Gizem Kazzaz**, Central European University, Vienna, Austria

### Session 11b. Mindful aristocrats and poet-scholars

Chair: **Uygar Aydemir**, Assistant Professor, Department of History, Üsküdar University, Istanbul, Türkiye

- 11.30–11.50    *On the Heels of Mirza Abu Talib Khan: the rare voyage of an Indian Muslim Noble through Ottoman lands*, **Waqar Khan**, writer and retired military officer of the Pakistan army, Islamabad; & **Adeela Naureen Waqar**, freelance journalist, Islamabad, Pakistan
- 11.50–12.10    *Giambattista Toderini and Della Letteratura Turchesca*, **Nazlı Beşer**, Sakıp Sabancı Museum, İstanbul, Türkiye
- 12.10–12.30    *The Travelling Mind and the Mindful Traveller: Orientalist-nahdawi encounters in Ottoman lands*, **Feras Alkabani**, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK

## Part 2. Expeditions and Visits around Istanbul

**12.50–14.30** Break for Friday prayer, lunch (not provided), and travel to the Feriköy Protestant Cemetery

14.30–17.00 **Session 12. A Visit to the Feriköy Protestant Cemetery** (tour c.60-90 minutes; 2-3 hours in total). For further details, see below.

**Introduction to the Feriköy Protestant Cemetery** by **Brian Johnson**, Librarian, ARIT and Feriköy Protestant Cemetery Initiative; **Richard Wittmann**, Deputy Director, Orient-Institut Istanbul and Feriköy Protestant Cemetery Initiative; and **Peter Cherry**, Assistant Director, British Institute at Ankara; (BIAA) and Feriköy Protestant Cemetery Initiative; TIOL committee member

*The Life and Death of a Foreign Correspondent Resting at Feriköy Cemetery: Georges Gaulis*, **Nilüfer Hatemi**, Near Eastern Studies Department, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA

*Blurring the Boundary between Heresy and Orthodoxy: foreign travellers' accounts on everyday religiosity in nineteenth-century Istanbul*, **Enes Osman Sayın**, Bilkent University, Ankara, Türkiye; **S. Berk Metin**, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, Canada

## Saturday 12 April 2025

10.15–16.00 Travel up the Bosphorus from Eminönü to visit the **Emirgan Tulip Gardens** guided by **Mert Pekdoğdu**, PhD candidate, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Sabancı University, Istanbul, Türkiye

Ferry schedule: departure at 10.15 from Eminönü, arrival at Emirgan at 11.20.

Return at 15.00 from Emirgan, arrival at Eminönü at 15.55.



To access the **abstracts** and **biodata** for the speakers please click onto this QR code to access [www.travellersinottomanlands.com](http://www.travellersinottomanlands.com) and click 'Abstracts'