

WORKSHOP



**“ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE OTTOMAN AEGEAN:
CONSULS – CULTURE – COMMERCE”**

**Friday 11 April 2025, 9am at the Institute of Classical Archaeology and
Byzantine Archaeology, Heidelberg, Room 406**

Abstract: How did local communities contribute to archaeology in the 19th and early 20th centuries? What were the connections between Ottoman officials, international diplomats, and competing curators? And what was the role of the antiquities market in stimulating intellectual developments? These are some of the questions this 1-day workshop will explore, bringing together historians and archaeologists to discuss the relationship between archaeology, museums, and the antiquities market in the Ottoman Aegean.

Please register with Dr. Nicholas Salmon (Nicholas.Salmon@landesmuseum.de) if you would like to participate.

Programme

Thursday 10 April

18.00–20.00 Reception for participants at the Institute, Room 406

Friday 11 April

09.00 Arrival and welcome (Christian Witschel, Katarina Horst, Nicholas Salmon)

Session 1 **Between diplomacy and digging**

Chair: Polly Lohmann (Heidelberg)

09.30 Lucia Gunning (UCL) & Despina Vlami (Academy of Athens) – *Early collecting and diplomacy in the Ottoman Empire: the historical foundations of a European obsession*

09.45 Yannis Galanakis & Anna Vangelatou (Cambridge/British Museum) – *Diplomatic antagonisms & the intra-Mediterranean antiquities trade: the case of Charles Merlin*

10.00 Discussion

10.15 Thomas Kiely (British Museum) – *More than a 'Mischievous Pastime': Consular collecting in Cyprus in late Ottoman times*

10.30 Sophia Matthaïou (IHR/NHRF) & Stratis Anagnostou (Lesbos) – *Antiquities of Lesbos during the period of Ottoman rule*

10.45 Discussion

11.00 Coffee

Session 2 **Legislation and local communities**

Chair: Alexandra Villing (British Museum)

11.30 Artemis Papatheodorou (Metropolitan Museum of Art) – *The roots of archaeological legislation in the Ottoman Principality of Samos*

11.45 Mustafa Kemal Baran (Koç) – *Antiquities in the Trenches: Archaeology and Heritage Preservation Efforts in Western Anatolia in Times of War*

12.00 Discussion

12.15 Birgit Sporleder (Independent Researcher) – *Antiquities trade in the Aegean in the early 20th century: Local dealers in Constantinople, Smyrna and Athens*

12.30 Polly Lohmann (Heidelberg/HCC) – *From Constantinople to Paris: Armenian Art dealers and the acquisitions of Robert Zahn in the late 19th and early 20th century*

12.45 Discussion

Programme

13.00 Lunch (objects and archives in Collection of Classical Antiquities from 13.30)

Session 3 Revisiting the Ottoman Archipelago

Chair: Georgios Liakopoulos (Max Planck Institut)

14.30 Manolis Stefanakis (Rhodes) – *Excavating the excavated: readings of early explorations and looting at the necropolis of Kymissala, Rhodes*

14.45 Nicholas Salmon & Efthimios Maheras (Karlsruhe/Rhodes) – *Dispersed histories: tracing the 1880–1883 Rhodes campaign and its Ottoman context*

15.15 Discussion and coffee

15.45 Filiz Tütüncü Çağlar (Museum für Islamische Kunst) – *A Gold Bee, an Ivory Dish and Necklace Beads: Theodore Macridy Reporting from the Aegean*

16.00 Antonis Hadjikyriacou (Panteion) – *Archaeology as extraction: the colonial modernity of Cyprus*

16.30 Discussion and concluding remarks until 17.00

19.00 Dinner

Saturday 12 April

11.00–12.30 Tour of Badisches Landesmuseum with Katarina Horst

Meet at front foyer

Location: Schloss Karlsruhe, Schlossbezirk 10, 76131 Karlsruhe

Please note: participants coming to Karlsruhe may claim train expenses as part of their travel reimbursement from Heidelberg Centre for Cultural Heritage. We recommend taking the 'RE 73' or 'S3' trains from Heidelberg Hauptbahnhof.

The workshop is a cooperation between the Badisches Landesmuseum and Heidelberg Centre for Cultural Heritage (Heidelberg University). The event is part of the ongoing research project 'Archaeology in the Ottoman Aegean: Consuls – Culture – Commerce' (December 2023 – November 2025), hosted by the Badisches Landesmuseum and funded by the German Lost Art Foundation.