Stories of Gold

26th Annual Medieval Workshop • Saturday, February 9, 2013

Location: The Bob Wright Centre (Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Science Building), Room B150, UVic Campus

Faculty Coordinator: Dr. Marcus Milwright, Director, Medieval Studies Program

Gold has been prized by humans for thousands of years. One of the few metals to occur in its pure form on the surface of the earth, gold is a remarkably malleable material that can be formed into any shape. To celebrate the fiftieth (golden) anniversary of the University of Victoria, we have chosen to explore the many roles of this rare and beautiful metal within Medieval society. Gold was used for sacred purposes ranging from reliquaries and liturgical items to the ornamentation of buildings and manuscripts with gold leaf. The metal had a central role in economic life, with gold coins circulating across the known world. There are also metaphorical dimensions of gold; these include the Medieval bestseller, the *Golden Legend*, and the pervasive concept of lost “Golden Ages.” We hope to bring you a workshop that is worth its weight in gold!

Workshop Program

9:00–9:10 Welcome and Opening Remarks
9:10–9:30 Dr Marcus Milwright, UVic: Introduction
9:30–9:55 Dr. Shamma Boyarin, UVic: Alexander the Great and Gold
9:55–10:05 Questions/Discussion
10:05–10:45 Refreshment Break
10:45–11:10 Dr. Iain Higgins, UVic: Golden Wonders
11:10–11:20 Questions/Discussion
11:20–12:45 Lunch on your own; musical performance by Banquo
12:45–1:00 Presentation about the Montpellier Program
1:00–1:25 Dr. Eranthis Baboula, UVic: Gold-studded, -sculpted, -wrapped, and -lettered: Imperial Objects of Byzantium
1:25–1:35 Questions/Discussion
1:35–2:20 Keynote: Dr. Mariam Rosser-Owen, Curator in the Asian Department, Victoria and Albert Museum, London: The Gold Route: Trans-Saharan Trade and Luxury Arts in Medieval Europe
2:20–2:40 Questions/Discussion
2:40–3:10 Refreshment Break
3:35–3:45 Questions/Discussion
4:10–4:20 Questions/Discussion
4:25 Closing Remarks

Don’t miss this special event! Register now:

Fee: $56; current UVic students $11 (prices include HST and refreshments) • Course Code: ASMS006 2013S W01

• in person: Continuing Studies Building (on the UVic campus at the corner of Ring and Gabriola Roads), 2nd floor reception (cash, cheque or credit card accepted)
• by phone (credit card only): Continuing Studies registration office, 250-472-4747
• online: www.uvcs.uvic.ca/Course/Medieval/ASMS006

Parking: There is a flat fee of $2.25 in all campus lots evenings and all day Saturday.

Pictured above: a Byzantine icon of the archangel Michael, dating from the tenth or eleventh century, from the treasury of San Marco, Venice.