

# ARIT NEWSLETTER

American Research Institute in Turkey



Number 59, Spring 2016

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

ARIT mourns the loss of life and injury that resulted from the events of July 15, and hopes for the safety and well-being of everyone in Turkey. We can report that all of our affiliated students and scholars came through the events safely. ARIT expects to continue its support for research in and exchanges with Turkey, as it has during past times of uncertainty.

An ongoing concern for both ARIT and Turkey is the protection of cultural property and heritage. The destruction of natural and cultural assets and the trafficking in cultural objects harm the identity, welfare, and economic potential of communities. This threat is a global one, and a primary concern of international agencies and national governments, as well as university institutes and archaeological projects. With the support of the U.S. Embassy, Cultural Affairs Office, and ARIT scholars, ARIT Ankara has facilitated several projects that aim to support local efforts at heritage protection.

ARIT Ankara director Dr. Elif Denel, together with Dr. Christina Luke, organized a workshop on museum and site security, a program at the 24th Museum Rescue Excavations Symposium and International Workshop on Museology that took place in Urfa in March 2015. Lectures delivered by Museum security experts Lauri and Arthur Kingsbury were well received by a large audience of directors and specialists from public and private museums throughout Turkey as well as representatives from the General Directorate of Cultural Heritage and Museums of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

In May, 2015, the ARIT Ankara staff helped to organize a conference at the Ministry of Culture in Ankara entitled "The Protection of Syrian and Iraqi Cultural Heritage." U.S. archaeologists, representatives of U.S. security agencies, and international cultural heritage organizations presented information on organized crime, the connection between antiquities trafficking and terrorism, the enforcement of international law and treaties, current local efforts to protect cultural heritage in areas of conflict in Syria and Iraq, and the goals and methods for documenting cultural heritage in conflict zones. Audience members came from Ministries of Interior, Foreign Affairs, Culture, Security and Customs, as well as from the Police Department. Specialists from museums in southern border cities actively participated as did the embassies of neighboring countries.

One concrete result of the conference is the decision to produce a Turkish translation of the International Council of Museums' *Emergency Red List of Iraqi Cultural Objects at Risk*. ICOM's Red Lists aim to help heritage professionals and law enforcement officials identify objects that are at risk. A Turkish version of the *Red List* for Syria had been produced previously, and the Iraqi Red List is in production now.

In Ankara, Dr. Denel is working closely with the American Embassy and the Turkish General Directorate of Monuments and Museums to produce a new pamphlet that explains the importance of cultural heritage protection and summarizes the laws regarding the illicit antiquities trade in Turkey. The pamphlet, to be produced in Arabic, English, and Turkish, will be distributed in the refugee camps and local communities in the border regions of southeastern Turkey.

Turkey is also preparing to open a new national institute dedicated to archaeology and cultural heritage. The project, supported generously by the EU, will be implemented by the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality, which will host the center. Here too ARIT has played an active role. At the invitation of the Mayor of Gaziantep, Dr. Elif Denel presented information about ARIT's mission to the International Conference on the EU-Turkey Anatolian Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Institute Project in Gaziantep, May 2016.

ARIT is pleased to assist with all of these projects and is particularly grateful to the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, the ICOM, for inviting us to collaborate with them in the protection of Turkey's cultural heritage.

A. Kevin Reinhart

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## ARIT-ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

### ISTANBUL BRANCH NEWS

Turkey has been living through turbulent times, and will probably continue to do so for some time. **Concerns about security** have understandably become an important factor for those planning academic trips to the country. **Travel and research in parts of southeastern Turkey and areas along the Syrian border cannot be recommended**, for obvious reasons. But what about the rest of the country, and how have uncertainties affected life at the Institute and the work being done by ARIT fellows?

For some people the impact, in the sense of heightened awareness and caution, is greater and for others much less, depending on where they are and what they are doing. In practical terms, for most of us, and certainly for those at the Institute, **the practical impact has been small**, in terms of daily routines, in terms of getting to and from work, access to research archives, museums and other institutes, interaction with colleagues, etc. Istanbul is the same Istanbul and feels the same on the streets as it did a few years ago. There is security, but it is no more heavy-handed than it has been at any time the last few years. On the street, in fact, there is little of the constant tension that prevailed at the time of the Gezi protests. Everyone manages, and **the city is still as frenetic, fascinating and surprising as ever**.

This is not to say that there has been no effect on academic travel to Turkey. There has been, in particular at the undergraduate level. Numerous universities have cancelled their programs abroad Turkey components, especially if they involve large numbers of undergraduates. Since ARIT has no undergraduate mission this has not been an issue for us, and **our graduate fellows, and individual advanced level researchers, have continued to arrive in the same numbers**, and are able to work in the libraries, museums and universities just as they have in the past.

In summary, **the message from here would be to encourage scholars not to change their plans**, for them to come and do the research they have planned, and not to expect to find any major difference, so far as personal safety goes, from what they've experienced before. Of course, U.S. travelers should consult State Department recommendations through the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP).

At ARIT we are fortunate that our location leaves us far from potential trouble spots, and we have never had to curtail activities because of events around us. The hotel was full through most of 2015, had the predictable slowdown in the winter of 2016, and full again from late spring on

through the mid-summer of 2016, until the coup attempt. Attendance at lectures and other events was good, and we look forward to an active fall season ahead.

**In the library, the digitization and uploading of the American Board Archives continues apace** under the supervision of **librarian Brian Johnson**. Considerable material has been added to the SALT database and is now accessible via the ARIT digital library. New additions include a number of discrete components of the photograph collection (<http://dlir.org/aba-photos-and-albums.html>), station reports, various documents concerning the Merzifon station, and the Riggs family papers (<http://dlir.org/aba-the-riggs-papers.html>). The latter offers a unique assortment of private correspondence and other material, including five diaries and close to 2,000 pages of personal letters, notes, and sermons relating to the Riggs family of missionaries, principally Rev. Elias Riggs (1810-1910), his wife Martha Dalzell Riggs (1810-1887), and three of their children, Elizabeth, Emma, and Samuel. Among the most interesting items are the diaries of Elizabeth and Emma Riggs, which offer us a rare insight into the thoughts and reflections of missionary children born and raised in the field.

**The first effort to present elements of the American Board Archives to the public, an exhibit entitled "Empty Fields," opened in the early spring of 2016 at the SALT Research center in Galata**. It begins with a section put together by ARIT librarian Brian Johnson that briefly introduces the American Board of Missions' work in Turkey. In the body of the **exhibit curator Marianna Hovhannisyan** takes a look specifically at the American Anatolia College in Merzifon, which was dedicated to providing advanced education to local students at the upper level, and included a school for girls as well as for younger students. The catalogue of a natural history museum developed at the College becomes the framework for illustrating the "Empty Fields." John Jacob Manissadjian, a German-Armenian professor of natural sciences and the founder of museum stands at the center of the story. Manissadjian collected and identified new species, sharing his specimens with experts in Europe. The museum was dispersed in the years following the catastrophe of 1915. The original catalogue, with all the specimens and showcases registered and often described in fine detail by Manissadjian in 1917, was found in the American Board Archive (now accessible in digitized format through the ARIT digital library). Curator Hovhannisyan's presentation of the archive's empty information fields suggests that they serve as markers for the realities and knowledge lost and left unreported. Using a blend of rare archival materials, photographs, maps, correspondence and video interviews,





Fundraising in 19th century Anatolia

the “Empty Fields” creates a space for past and present politics and narratives of loss and displacement.

Throughout the summer and fall **the Institute hosted a series of lectures** that regularly drew in audiences of twenty to forty persons and provided an opportunity for resident scholars and other working in the city to meet and engage in lively interchange and dialogue, and share a drink or even dinner afterwards. The following is a list of this past year’s lectures through January:

**Dr. James L. Gelvin**, Professor of Modern Middle Eastern History, UCLA, “The Long Rise and Quick Fall of the Islamic State (ISIS)”

**Dr. Virginia H. Aksan**, Professor of History, McMaster University, “Writing the Ottomans on to the World Map: A Personal Journey”

**Dr. Başak Kuş**, Professor of Sociology, Wesleyan University, “Financialization, Credit Markets, and Political Consent in the ‘New Turkey’”

**Dr. Linda Darling**, Professor of History, University of Arizona, “Financial Crimes in Early Ottoman Egypt”

**Dr. John Curry**, Professor of History, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, “Scholars, Sufis, and Disease: Can Muslim Religious Works Offer us Novel Insights on Plagues and Epidemics among the Medieval and Early Modern Ottomans?”

**Dr. Sylvia Wing Önder**, Professor of Anthropology and Turkish Language, Georgetown University, “Scientific Agriculture for Anatolia: American Efforts from Ottoman Times through the Cold War”

**David Fossum**, Ph.D. Candidate in Ethnomusicology, Brown University, “Collectors, Copyright, and Kiziroğlu:

Debating Folklore and Intellectual Property in Turkey”

**Nicholas Danforth**, Ph.D. Candidate in History, Georgetown University, “A History of the Ottoman Empire from 1923 to Today”

**Dr. Gregory Votruba**, Wolfson College, University of Oxford, “Enlightenment from the Depths: Iron Anchor Development From Late Antiquity into the Renaissance”

**Dr. Bülent Arıkan**, Department of Ecology and Evolution, Eurasia Institute of Earth Sciences, Istanbul Technical University, “The Preliminary Results of Agent-based Modeling for the Early Bronze Age-I (Level VI-B, ca. 3000-2750 BC) of Arslantepe: The Long-term Impacts of Human Land Use on the Land Cover and Landscape Evolution”

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On a special note, we should mention a unique musical event staged last June – a **concert of Sephardic music** entitled *Kantikas de Sefarad: Music of the Jewish Communities of Turkey, The Balkans, and The Middle East*. The event was organized by **Joseph Alpar**, a doctoral student in ethnomusicology at The Graduate Center, City University of New York, in Istanbul for the year on an ARIT grant conducting research toward a thesis on synagogue music and *hazzanut* of the Jewish community. With a repertoire that drew from Ottoman court music, Ladino folk songs and ballads, Shabbat and holiday songs in Hebrew, songs in Ladino and Turkish that share common melodies, and rebetiko, among other genres, it demonstrated the fluidity and blending of diverse musical ideas between Jewish and non-Jewish worlds. (See Alpar’s fellowship report beginning on p. 13).

It was performed in the **historic Aşkenaz Synagogue in Galata**, and included, in addition to Joseph Alpar (voice and percussion), noted musicians **Professor Ruhi Ayangil** (kanun), **Korkutalp Bilgin** (cello and guitar), and **Dr. Osman Öksüzöğlü** (ney). The Synagogue was filled to overflowing with more than 200 guests.



ARIT Fellow Joseph Alpar and the *Kantikas de Sefarad*

**Last year was another banner year for book donations.** In particular we have to thank long time ARIT friend and patron, **John Freely**, who when clearing out and downsizing his collection donated a large portion to the ARIT library. A total of 390 books came to ARIT, especially strong in Greece, Venice, and the Eastern Mediterranean over the ages. They are still being processed. Most will end up on the shelves in a **special John Freely section** that should be completed soon.

Other individual donors include: **Zeki Mete Aslan, Cem Behar, Margaret Dittimore, Yavuz Dizdar, James Gelvin, Brian Johnson, Suraiyya Faroqhi, Tony Greenwood, Charles King, Masako Matsui, August Siena Cohn Thomas, Lesley Tahtakılıç, and Fariba Zarinebaf.**

We also wish to thank the following institutions: **Koç University, Ege Publications, Gaziosmanpaşa University, Istanbul Belediye, Istanbul University, 29 May University,** and the **Zonguldak Governorship.**

In this regard, we regret to note **the passing away of Professor Thomas Goodrich** of the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Professor Goodrich was perhaps best known in the field as a pioneer of Ottoman cartography. He was also a life-long supporter of the library of the ARIT Center in Istanbul, who made innumerable donations to the library over at least 25 years, sometimes just ten or twenty books, sometimes a hundred or more, at times even driving up to the ARIT office in Philadelphia to hand deliver them. He played an important part in building up the strength of our Ottoman collection and we shall always be grateful.

## ISTANBUL FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS

**The Friends Steering Committee** has renewed itself this year with the addition of new members, including **Sinan Ceylan, Gencer Emiroğlu, Alan Mellaart and Yaprak Archbald.** The newly constituted committee vowed to continue ongoing efforts to support the ARIT fellowship program to the fullest extent possible. To this effect they once again decided to split their donation between programs in the U.S. and in Turkey. In the early winter of 2016 **they decided to donate up to \$12,000** to be used to support two worthy non-U.S. citizen applicants in the U.S. program; and for the Turkey program, **to donate up to \$8,000** for the Dernek program for fellowships for Turkish Ph.D. candidates.

The Friends’ profits stemmed from a very active and successful nine months, running twelve trips over this period, a number of which were exciting new ventures, while others were based on old ideas but with a new twist. Below is a brief description of these trips, in chronological order:

**Tour of the Küçükyalı Archaeological Park** with Professor Alessandra Ricci (Byzantine Art Historian, Koç University and Director of the Küçükyalı Site). Professor Ricci has been carrying out archaeological investigations on this Byzantine site since 2001. She has also been working, in coordination with the Maltepe Municipality, on the preservation of the site and its conversion into an archaeological-historical park for the public. Following the tour there was an outdoor concert on the site performed by an *a capella* Group from Yale University, *The Spizzwinks*, and a local children’s group, *Bariş için Müzik.*

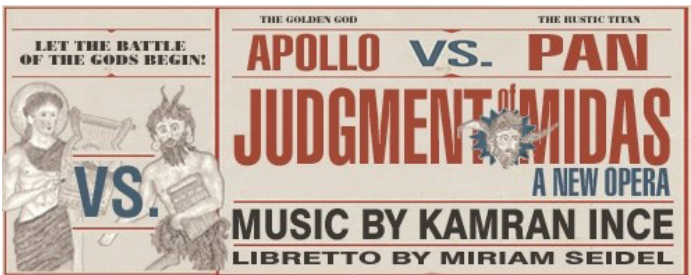
**Northeastern Iran Tour.** FARIT’s second tour to Iran in as many years focused on Iranian Azerbaijan. Highlights included Tabriz, Kendovan, Ardabil, Zanjan, Qazvin, Tahran and Isfahan.





Roman Bath-Gymnasium Complex at Sardis

**Sardis Concert.** This was a unique opportunity for the Istanbul and Ankara Friends both, to sample the rich history and the fascinating remains of this historic city under the guidance of the excavators, **Professor Nick Cahill** (director of the Sardis Excavations) and **Dr. Bahadır Yıldırım** (co-director of the Sardis Excavations and the former director of Ankara-ARIT), and at the same time to celebrate the legacy of the late **Crawford H. Greenewalt**, the director of the Sardis excavations for more than 30 years and a great friend of ARIT.

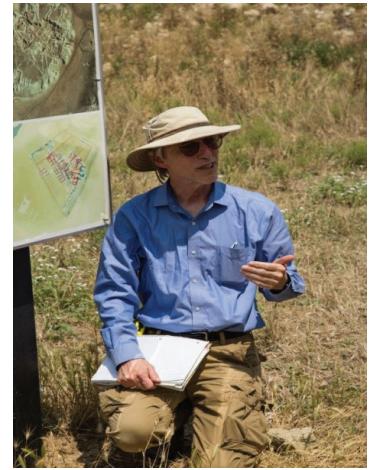


The musical program included the *Sardis Symphony* by **Kamran İnce**, which describes in music the beauty of the natural landscape and antiquities of Sardis: the Tmolus Mountains, the Acropolis, the Pactolus stream, the Necropolis, and Bin Tepe, the royal cemetery of the Lydian kings. The program included arias from *The Judgment of Midas*, an opera about the musical contest between Apollo and Pan, which took place in the Tmolus mountains above Sardis, and was judged by the famous king of Phrygia. Both of these works were commissioned by the late Crawford H. Greenewalt. The performance took place in the evening in the ancient temple of Artemis.

**A Tour of Tahtakale: the Traditional Craft and Wholesale Center of Old Istanbul**, led by **Gencer Emiroğlu**. This tour focused on what is traditional in the architecture, the handicrafts, the shops and eating places, the hamams and mosques of this picturesque, little-changed market and craft area of the old city. Here, perhaps more than anywhere else in Istanbul, one gets a sense of the unchanged patterns of the city.

**A Tour of Gordion**, led by the **Project Director, Professor Brian Rose** (Professor of Classical Archeology, University of Pennsylvania). This was a unique opportunity: a chance

to see Gordion with the excavators, and to hear from the excavators about what's going on in the trenches, as well as to visit the city mound, the grand tumulus (previously thought to be of King Midas), and the newly expanded museum. It included an evening in Eskişehir with time to stroll around the city.



Professor Brian Rose at Gordion

**Bathonea.** Excavations at this newly discovered site, led by Professor Şengül Aydıngün (Kocaeli University), recently have uncovered extensive sea walls, port facilities, depots, roads, churches and other buildings spread out over an extensive area on the eastern shore of Lake Küçükçekme.

**19th annual Black Sea boat trip.** This event reprised FARIT's classic trip to the historic castles at the mouth of the Black Sea.

**Lake Bafa and nearby Classical Sites.** Staying for two nights in a picturesque village pansiyon in **Heraclea ad Latmos** on beautiful Lake Bafa, the first day was spent visiting the three famous classical sites in the valley of the Meander river:

**Priene, Miletus and Didyma.** The following day began with an early hike into the hills along ancient roads to visit the remains of a rock hewn monastery, followed by visits to the spectacular remains of the mountain sanctuary of **Labranda** and the major Carian city of **Stratonikeia**.

**Belgrade Forest.** This trip, led by **Gencer Emiroğlu**, explored **the Ottoman Waterworks** (the Taksim System) and Settlements in the Belgrade Forest.

**Walking Tour from Kalenderhane Camii to the Golden Horn**, led by **Claire Karaz**. The tour began at the **Kalenderhane Camii**, proceeded to the **Şehzade Mosque**, one of Sinan's early masterpieces, then continued past the **aqueduct of Valens** and the **Siirt Pazarı** (a market area), and then turned down towards the **Zeyrek Camii** (the Pantocrater), and from there to the **Eski İmaret Camii**, the restored **Küçük Mustafa Paşa Hamamı**, the **Gül Camii**, and finally ended up on the Golden Horn at the main building of Kadir Has University, an interesting re-use of an old Ottoman tobacco factory.

**Tour of the Feriköy Protestant Cemetery** with **Dr. Brian Johnson** (historian and ARIT librarian). A realm



Feriköy Protestant Cemetery

of solitude and calm removed from the intensity of the city beyond the walls, the Feriköy Protestant Cemetery has links to the past that reach not only to the mid-nineteenth century, when the burial ground opened, but to much earlier periods. Brian Johnson spoke on the history and development of the

cemetery, with a special focus on its uniquely American connections, and led guests around to see the burial stones of some of its better known inhabitants.

**Tour of the Monuments of the Kadıköy/Moda Area**, led by **Dr. İnci Turkoğlu**. This full-day walking tour of the monuments of the Kadıköy area focused on the historic setting and a number of the most important monuments from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These included among others the **Greek Orthodox Churches of Aghia Euphemia and Aghia Triada**, the **Armenian Orthodox Church of Surp Takavor**, the **Armenian Catholic Church of Surp Leon**, the **Assumption Church in Moda**, the **All Saints Moda Church**, and the **Hemdat Israel Synagogue**.

## ARIT-ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

### ANKARA BRANCH NEWS

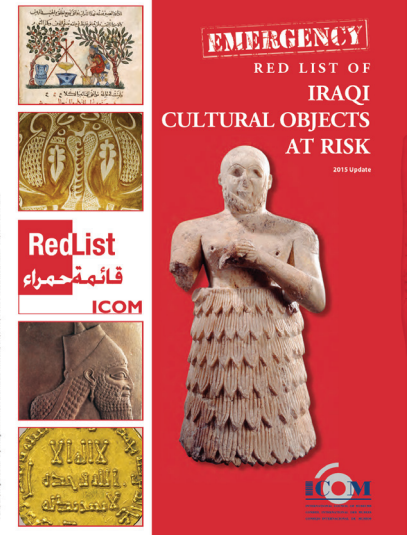
In May 2015 Ankara - ARIT organized a day-long conference on **the Protection of Syrian and Iraqi Cultural Heritage** held in the Osman Özbek Hall at the T.C. Ministry of Culture and Tourism's General Directorate of Monuments and Museums. Specialists came from the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, FBI Art Theft Program, UNESCO, International Committee on Museums (ICOM), ASOR Syrian Heritage Initiative and Penn Cultural Heritage Center. Invited by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, the audience included representatives from the Ministries of Interior, Foreign Affairs, and Culture and Tourism, the Law Enforcement, the Customs, museums from along Turkey's southeast border, as well as the U.S. Embassy in Ankara. Presentations provided information and insight to the Turkish officials about international efforts to address the systematic destruction of cultural heritage in Syria and Iraq and the smuggling of heritage from these countries through their neighboring countries.



Elif Denel and France Desmarais of ICOM at the Ministry conference

This event followed a workshop in March, developed by ARIT Ankara on museum security and presented at **the 24th Museum Rescue Excavations and the International Workshop on Museology** (24. Müze Kurtarma Kazıları Sempozyumu ve Uluslararası Müzecilik Çalıştayı) in March 2015 at Şanlıurfa. This workshop featured presentations by museum security experts, Lauri Kingsbury and Dr. Arthur Kingsbury, with contributions from Dr. Christina Luke, currently at Koç University.

Ankara-ARIT is continuing collaborations with the U.S. Embassy and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism to follow on these events with several projects related to the protection of heritage. Nearing completion is the translation into Turkish of the ICOM's 2015 *Emergency Red List of Iraqi Cultural Objects at Risk*.



The meeting for the **George M.A. and Ilse B. Hanfmann and Machteld J. Mellink Fellowships** for 2015-2016 was held in Ankara-ARIT in April 2015. Four scholars received funding for a very diverse range of research topics at different institutions in the U.S., Europe and Australia:

**Melis Uzdurum** (Ph.D. candidate in Prehistoric Archaeology, Istanbul University) "Production and Con-



sumption of Mudbrick at Aşıklı: Interconnections between Raw Materials, Technology and Social Life”

**Sabiha Göloğlu** (Ph.D. candidate in Archaeology and History of Art, Koç University) “Nineteenth Century Representations of the Islam Pilgrimage Sites in Europe and Ottoman Empire”

**Dr. Erman Gören** (Asst. Prof. in the Dept. of Ancient Languages and Cultures, Ancient Greek, Istanbul University) “The Divine Names in *Corpus Dionysiaca* as the Mirrors of Being: The Dispositives for Seeing the Unseen”

**Mine Lütüfiye Durur** (M.A. candidate in Anthropology, Hacettepe) “The Death Rituals of the Achemhöyük Population”

The **W.D.E. Coulson and Toni M. Cross Aegean Exchange Fellowship** competition meeting took place at Ankara-ARIT in early December of 2015. **Dr. Fahri Dikkaya**, currently an instructor in the Basic Sciences Unit of the Türk Eğitim Derneği University in Ankara, won a fellowship for his project, “Ottoman Pottery between Local and Imperial Tastes.” The project builds on his dissertation completed at Bilkent University’s History Department under the supervision of Prof. Halil İnlacık and Dr. Marie-Henriette Gates. That work offered an archaeological assessment of the foundation of the Ottomans. Dr. Dikkaya will carry out his research at the American School of Classical Studies at Athens during the summer months of 2016.

The **Ankara hostel** housed 24 scholars since the beginning of 2015 before we closed it down in January 2016. Several of our guests stayed for extended periods of time, up to five months. An Iraqi professor of ancient Mesopotamian languages from the University of Mosul and his wife stayed for one month while preparing for a long visit at the University of Pennsylvania. Other students and scholars who used the Ankara hostel came from U.S. and European institutions, ranging from Michigan State University, University of Nevada at Las Vegas, University of Chicago, University of Pennsylvania, University of California at San Diego, Harvard University, University of Wisconsin - Madison, Coastal Carolina University, Tulane University, Baylor University, University of the Pacific, University of New Hampshire, Harvard Art Museums, and University of Florence, University of Birmingham, Trinity College Dublin - ISE, and University of Sorbonne. Two visitors were independent scholars, while two Fulbright fellows used our facilities numerous times. Our final guest in January of 2016 was an ARIT Board Member from the University of Toronto.

**The work of closing down the hostel took several weeks of cleaning and painting.** We were able to sell some of our furniture; the resulting funds contributed to new shelves

for the library and the office. Thanks to the laborious efforts of our staff members, **Özlem Eser, Burcu Yıldırım, Çiğdem Önal Emiroğlu** and **Songül Yıldız**, the remaining furnishings and supplies were donated to a neighborhood in Ankara housing refugees, most of whom come from Syria.

Despite budget cutbacks, we continue to expand **the Toni M. Cross Library**. Our librarian Özlem Eser recorded over 400 items including books and periodicals, as well as 40 offprints. Library patrons came from a wide range of Turkish institutions, such as Adnan Menderes, Ahi Evran, Aksaray, Ankara, Ardahan, Bilkent, Bülent Ecevit, Çukurova, Cumhuriyet, Ege, Gazi, Hacettepe, Hitit, Ipek, Karabük, Koç, Mimar Sinan, Selçuk, and Türk Eğitim Derneği Universities, as well as Istanbul Technical University and the Middle Eastern Technical University. Foreign users were from Baylor, Harvard, Tulane and Richmond Universities, University of Nevada at Las Vegas, University of Pennsylvania, Florence University, Birmingham University and Cambridge University.

We are most grateful to all our individual donors: **A. Nejat Bilgen, Akın Ersoy and Gözde Şakar, Ali Umut Türkcan, Ann E. Killebrew, Aynur Özfırat, Christine Biggs, Douglas and Vicdan Kittelson, Elif Denel, Hatçe Baltacıoğlu, John Freely, Kakha Khimshiashvili, Margaret R. Dittmore, Murat Arslan, Musa Kadioğlu, Oğuz Aydemir, Orhan Yılmaz, Özgen Acar, Ron Tickfer, Serra Durugönül, Tamara Stech, Tuğba Tanyeri Erdemir and Aykan Erdemir, Vahit Türk**; and to our institutional donors as well, including: **İstanbul Kültür University, Akdeniz University – Mediterranean Civilisations Research Institute, Gaziantep Büyükşehir Belediyesi, Hazar Strateji Enstitüsü, KAAM (Mersin University, Research Center of Cilician Archaeology), Römisch-Germanischen Kommission des Deutschen Archäologischen Institüts, Smithsonian Institution Library, Uludağ University Mosaic Research Center, World Archaeological Congress – Global Libraries Program.**

Ankara-ARIT continued its **library donation program** during 2015, contributing books and journals to five institutions. Over 200 items were donated to Osmaniye Korkut Ata University, over 160 items were donated to Akdeniz University in Antalya, 29 items were donated to the Dil Tarih and Coğrafya Faculty at Ankara University, over 60 items were sent to the library of the Anatolian Civilizations Museum in Ankara. Over 300 items were sent to Uşak University.

**The 35th Annual Lecture Series on Art and Archaeology in Turkey**, co-sponsored by Ankara-ARIT and the Turkish American Association (TAA), offered four lectures at the Reşat Aktan Lounge of the TAA in the spring



Dr. Ali Umut Türkcan lectures at TAA

of 2015. Koç University's RCAC (Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations) Fellow **Dr. Michael Jones** lectured on "The Yenikapı Round Ships and Recent Research on 9th and 10th Century Byzantine Seafaring." **Dr. Ali Umut Türkcan** (Archaeology Department, Eskişehir University) presented his research focusing mainly on the Chalcolithic period in a talk entitled "Survey and Excavations at Kanlıtaş, Eskişehir." **Dr. Charles Gates** (Archaeology Department, Bilkent University) lectured on "The Theodosian Obelisk Base in the Hippodrome, Istanbul: An Archaeological Puzzle for the 4th century AD." Finally, **Dr. Pınar Üre** provided interesting insight

into the history of the archaeological research institutes in Turkey in her talk "Byzantine Heritage, Archaeology, and Politics between Russia and the Ottoman Empire: Russian Archaeological Institute in Constantinople (1894-1914)."

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**ANKARA FRIENDS OF ARIT NEWS**



Dr. Kakha Khimshiashvili

**Lectures and events sponsored by the Ankara Friends of ARIT** included two occasions that built upon the amazing trip the Friends took to Georgia directed by **Dr. Irene Giviashvili** in the fall of 2014. Dr. Giviashvili, who is an art historian as well

as the wife of Ambassador Irakli Kopaladze, introduced a documentary, *Cradle of Wine*, on a movie night in February of 2015. The film focused on the history of wine production in Georgia and the significance of wine in Georgian culture. In the fall of 2015, **Dr. Kakha Khimshiashvili** kicked off the 2015-2016 lecture series at ARIT with a talk co-sponsored by the Georgian Embassy on "The Ancient Cave City Uplistsikhe."

Other lecturers include **Dr. Robert Merrillees**, who delivered a talk entitled "Luigi Palma di Cesnola, Cyprus, and the Ottoman Connection." The lecture featured recent findings on his ongoing research on the Ottoman-Cyprus connections for the archaeology and the cultural heritage of Cyprus. **Dr. Işıl Acehan** (History Department, İpek University in Ankara) lectured on the earliest evidence for the mass immigration of the Turks into the U.S. in his presentation "The Ottoman Immigrants in the U.S."

In March, the Friends visited the **Vehbi Koç and Ankara Research Center (VEKAM)** on a half-day trip where **Arzu**



Ankara Friends at VEKAM with Arzu Kırıcı

**Beril Kırıcı** graciously hosted us and provided a wealth of information on the Koç family's history in Ankara and flourishing research center at Keçiören. In April Ottoman archaeologist **Dr. Fahri Dikkaya** led a trip focusing on the **Ottoman heritage at Bursa and Iznik.**



The Friends organized two trips to the **Black Sea coast**, a **day trip to Amasra** led by Dr. Dikkaya and a **two-day trip to Sinop** led by **Dr. Dominique Kassab Tezgör**, who had conducted extensive excavations at the Classical and Late Antique pottery workshops in the vicinity of Sinop.



Finally, we had a well-attended day trip in Ankara, looking at the **early Republican architecture in the Ulus area** with **Professor Elvan Altan** (the Architectural History Program, Middle East Technical University).



Byzantine Church/Mosque in Amasra

On June 17, 2015, the Ankara and Istanbul Friends joined together for a **very special trip to Sardis**. The program included the Symphony No. 4 *Sardis*, as well as arias from the opera *The Judgment of Midas*. The composer, **Kamran Ince**, conducted the performance in front of the Artemis Temple. The concert marked the debut in Turkey for the *Sardis Symphony*. Both works were commissioned by the late **Professor and Director of the Archaeological Exploration of Sardis, Crawford Greenewalt**. This unique event also honored his legacy as a legendary Anatolian archaeologist and a great patron of the arts. Also please see images related to the Sardis event in the Istanbul Friends' news section.



Concert the Judgment of Midas at Sardis

We are grateful to **Ambassador John Bass and Ankara Friends of ARIT's Honorary President, Ms. Holly Holzer Bass**, for hosting the **Annual Dinner** at the Ambassador's Residence in June 2015, where ARIT and Fulbright Fellow **Dr. Elizabeth Baughan** (University of Richmond) delivered a very interesting lecture on her current research, "Couched in Death: *Klinai* in Ancient Anatolia."



ARIT Ankara Friends Open House 2015

Finally, we were saddened by the **departure of Steering Committee member Ahmet Yayböke** from Turkey over the summer of 2015. Year after year he single-handedly organized the amazing spreads of food and drinks for **the Friends' Annual Open House Party**. This also was sadly the last Open House Party Ankara Friends held at the ARIT hostel before it was closed in January 2016. It was difficult to fill in Mr. Yayböke's shoes, but the Steering Committee members organized a fabulous and well-attended pot-lock in early October.



ARIT Friends visiting the Temple of Artemis at Sardis

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## ARIT FELLOWSHIPS 2015 - 2016

### ARIT NEH Fellow

**Dr. Melis Hafez**, Modern Middle East, Virginia Commonwealth Institute, *The Lazy, the Idle, the Industrious: The Culture of Productivity in Late Ottoman Society 1830-1922*. Dr. Hafez examines the shift in understanding of the role each citizen played in the overall fate of the empire during the reform period (1839-1922), tracing how anxieties over laziness and productivity took divergent and even conflictual political formulations.

### ARIT - U.S. Department of State, Educational and Cultural Affairs Fellows

**Mr. Harun Buljina**, Balkan and Ottoman History, Columbia University, *The Ends of Empire: Ethno-Religious Conflict and Cooperation in the Late and Post Ottoman Balkans, 1878-1921*. Combining Ottoman state records and non-state sources in the Balkans, Mr. Buljina is tracing a social history of the central Balkan Sancak of Novi Pazar, a critical region in the Ottoman Empire's closing decades.

**Ms. Pauline Lucy Lewis**, Middle East Studies, University of California, Los Angeles, *The Social and Cultural Effects of Telegraphy in the Ottoman Empire, 1855-1918*. Using documents from the historical archives in Istanbul, Ms. Lewis examines the role of the telegraph in revolutionizing communication patterns, nationalizing Ottoman society, and building modern institutions and infrastructure.

**Ms. Kathryn E. Marklein**, Biological Anthropology and Bioarchaeology, Ohio State University, *Ave Imperium, mortui te salutamus: Redefining Roman Imperialism through Biocultural and Bioarchaeological Perspectives of Liminal Populations*. Through bioarchaeological analysis of the skeletal remains from the Roman (AD 130-270) cemetery at Oymağaç Ms. Marklein will test the hypothesis that Roman rule had detrimental effects on indigenous communities of the eastern Empire, systematically examining violence, physiological health, and dietary resource allocation.

**Dr. Ranin Kazemi**, Middle Eastern History, San Diego State University, *Famine in the Middle East: Environment, Market, State and Society 1700-1918*. Dr. Kazemi's comparative study delineates the historical contexts of recurrent food crises in Anatolia, the Caucasus, and northwestern Iran from 1700 to 1918.

**Mr. Henry R. Shapiro**, History, Princeton University, *The Great Armenian Flight: Ottoman Armenian History and Historiography of the Reign of Sultan Ahmed I (1603-1617)*. Mr. Shapiro uses both Armenian narrative sources and Ottoman Turkish court records to study the arrival of Ottoman Armenians in Western Anatolia, and Istanbul in particular, at the beginning of the 17th century, and changes in the Armenian intellectual and literary tradition that came about as a result.

**Ms. Margaret Anne Shortle**, History of Art and Architecture, Boston University, *Illustrated Divans of Hafiz in the Topkapı Palace Library*. The *ghazals*, or short lyric poems of Hafiz, appear in illustrated *divans* (collections of poetry) of the 15th and

16th centuries. Ms. Shortle studies the array of fantastic figurative and vegetal visual imagery to explore the intersections of word, image, and ornament in Islamic art.

**Dr. Peter J. Stone**, Ancient Mediterranean History and Archaeology, Virginia Commonwealth University, *Between Tarsus and the Tetrapolis: The Hellenistic Pottery from Kinet Hoyuk*. Dr. Stone studies the Hellenistic pottery recovered from excavation at Kinet Höyük on the Bay of Iskenderun to investigate the origins of Eastern Sigillata A ceramic industry and its impact on trade and consumption patterns in coastal Cilicia and North Syria.

### ARIT - U.S. Department of State W. D. E. Coulson and Toni M. Cross Aegean Exchange Fellows

#### From Turkey:

**Dr. Nesibe Özgül Turgay**, Music and Art of Performance, Yıldız Technical University, *The Analysis of Form, Mode and Technique in the Repertory of tabakhaniotika*. Dr. Turgay traveled to Crete, Thessaloniki, and Macedonia to complete her research on music performance.

**Ms. Melis Cankara**, History and Theory of Architecture, Yıldız Technical University. *An Unusual Blend and a Bitter Complication: Muslims and Christians Exchanging Houses in Rethymno after the Treaty of Lausanne*. Melis Cankara is completing a study of historic residential buildings in Rethymno, Crete.

**Ms. Çilem Yavşan**, Archaeology, Çanakkale Onsekizmart University, *The Bone Tool Industry at the Late Sixth/Early Fifth millennium BC Settlement at Smintheion in the Troad: A Typological, Technological and Functional Approach*. Ms. Yavşan is carrying out comparative study in the library of the American School of Classical Studies at Athens as well as visiting the museums of Athens and elsewhere in Greece.

#### From Greece:

**Ms. Eleni Mentessidou**, Archaeology, Democritus University of Thrace, *Religion and Rituals in the Greek Cities of the South Coast of the Black Sea during the Hellenistic Period*. The project continues Ms. Mentessidou's 2014 Aegean Exchange work researching Hellenistic materials in the Istanbul Archaeological Museum and at sites and local museums on the southern coast of the Black Sea in Turkey.

### Friends of ARIT Fellows

**Ms. Ekin Kurtiç**, Middle Eastern Studies and Social Anthropology, Harvard University, *Remaking a River Basin: Green Economy, Ecology and Politics in Turkey*. Sited in the Çoruh River basin, one of the world's fastest-flowing rivers, Ms. Kurtiç's study examines the making of the green economy as a complex and fragmented process within a specific geography that generates new forms of power and social relations.

**Ms. Müge Durusu Tanrıöver**, Archaeology, Brown University, *Between Arzawa and Hattuša: Locating the Second Millennium BCE Material Culture from the Yalburt Yaylası Archaeological*



*Landscape Research Project.* Using comparative study from survey finds, Müge Durusu Tanrıöver aims to define “Hittite” material culture at the edges of the empire.

### ARIT - U.S. Department of Education Turkish Language Program Fellows

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### ARIT Hanfmann and Mellink Fellows

#### George M. A. Hanfmann Fellow

**Dr. Erman Gören**, Ancient Languages and Cultures, Istanbul University, *The Divine Names in Corpus Dionysiaca as the Mirrors of Being: The Dispositives for Seeing the Unseen.* Dr. Gören conducts research on early Christian thought, in cooperation with Dr. Charles Stang, Harvard University Divinity School.

#### Ilse B. Hanfmann Fellows

**Ms. Sabiha Göloğlu**, Archaeology and History of Art, Koç University, *Nineteenth Century Representations of the Islamic Pilgrimage Sites in Europe and Ottoman Empire.* Ms. Göloğlu studies the imagery of Islamic pilgrimage while visiting libraries and collections in Europe including locations in Leiden, Amsterdam, and London.

#### Machteld J. Mellink Fellows

**Ms. Melis Uzdurum**, Prehistoric Archaeology, Istanbul University, *The Production and Consumption of Mudbrick at Aşıklı: Interconnections between Raw Materials, Technology and Social Life.* Ms. Uzdurum is carrying out geoarchaeological analysis of construction materials from the Neolithic site of Aşıklı Höyük while at Tübingen University in the Institute for Archaeological Sciences working with prehistorian Dr. Susan Mentzer.

**Ms. Mine Lütfiye Durur**, Anthropology, Hacettepe University, *The Death Rituals of the Achemhöyük Population.* Ms. Durur will complete the analysis of bone samples from the site, working with Dr. Antonio Sagona, Melbourne University.

### ARIT Turkish Dernek Fellows

**Ms. Zeynep Altok**, History Department, Boğaziçi University, *Sixteenth-Century Biographies of Poets and Ottoman Elite Identity.* Ms. Altok is completing archival research focused on the bibliographical dictionaries that provide commentaries on the lives, personalities, and works of Ottoman poets.

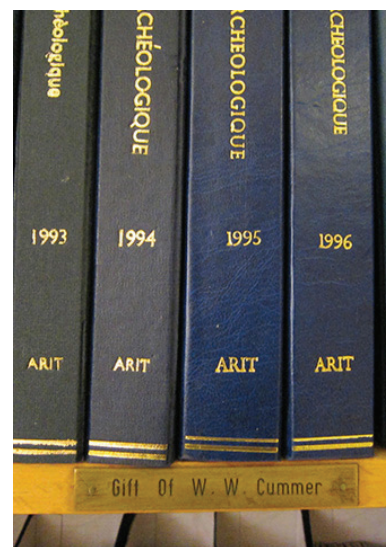
**Mr. Uygur Aydemir**, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Sabancı University, *Between Constitution and Autocracy: Public Discontent in the Ottoman Empire Preceding the First Parliamentary Experiment of 1876-1878.* Mr. Aydemir considers the transition in late 19th century Turkey from the diverse Ottoman Empire toward a representative state.

**Ms. Ebru Sönmez**, History Department, Bilkent University, *Envisioning Hussein the Martyr and Karbala in the Cultural Memory of Early Modern Ottoman Muslim Society.* Ms. Sönmez will review the Ottoman approach to ethnic and religious politics through the Ottoman reflection of life of the Shia Imam.

**Ms. Firuzan Melike Sümertaş**, History Department, Boğaziçi University, *The Role of the Greek Orthodox Community in the Transformation of the Urban Structure of 19th Century Istanbul.* Using archival sources, Ms. Sümertaş explores the effects of the Orthodox Greeks’ patronage and intellectual contributions to the development of Istanbul in the 19th century.

### IN MEMORIAM

**Dr. W. Willson Cummer III**, known to us as ‘Terry,’ passed away in October, 2015. Archaeologist and teacher, architect and craftsman, Terry was the third Director of ARIT in Ankara, serving from 1970 through 1972. The ARIT Ankara library was started in earnest by Terry who acquired books and publications whenever and wherever he could, making many generous personal contributions.



**Dr. Tom Goodrich**, Ottomanist historian and student of maps died in November 2015. A professor at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, he was a generous supporter of the ARIT Istanbul library.

**Neşe Devrim**, long time colleague and consultant to the ARIT summer language program passed away suddenly in December 2015. Neşe coordinated Turkish Language programs for international students for many years.

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As the representative institution for U. S. academics in Turkey, ARIT offers research support facilities and services to a diverse community of students and researchers. Your gifts build U.S. scholarship and expertise on Turkey, foster collaboration and understanding with Turkish colleagues and institutions. Your support for the endowment fund develops the sustainable resources to ensure ARIT's continued success.

**INFORMATION REGARDING 2017-2018 ARIT FELLOWSHIPS** is accessible via the ARIT website. The application deadline for research fellowships is November 1, 2016.

**ARIT WELCOMES NEW INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS** University of Central Florida and Middle East Studies at Brown University. For information about institutional membership please contact the ARIT office at [leinwand@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:leinwand@sas.upenn.edu), (215) 898-3474

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**REPORT ON ARIT FELLOWSHIP**

**Joseph Alpar**, Ethnomusicology, Middle East and Middle Eastern American Center, City University of New York Graduate Center  
ARIT Fellowship, 2014-2015  
*Hazzanim, Synagogue Liturgy, and Religious Renewal in Istanbul's Jewish Community*



On the evening of June 3, 2015, I joined three of Istanbul's finest Turkish musicians to give a concert of Sephardic Jewish music at the historic Ashkenazi Synagogue in Galata in the Beyoğlu district of Istanbul. The varied program drew from Sephardic Turkish folk repertoire, Ottoman classical music, and shared melodies representing the

combined musical cultures, with lyrics in Turkish, Hebrew, and Ladino. The repertoire revealed the rich legacy of the intertwined musical and social histories of Turkish Jews and their neighbors. The concert was standing room only with an audience of nearly three hundred people. It was my attempt to thank ARIT for giving me the opportunity to complete my dissertation field research as well as to express my gratitude toward the many members of Istanbul's Jewish community who welcomed me and greatly enriched my time in Turkey with their knowledge and experience, kindness, and friendship. Supported and organized by ARIT and with the help of the local Jewish community, this concert was the culmination of a highly productive and extraordinary year of research on synagogue music and contemporary religious life in Istanbul.

Within the past decade, a small yet robust fragment of Istanbul's largely secular Sephardic Jewish population has become more religious. People participate in daily synagogue prayer services, strictly adhere to Jewish dietary laws, keep the Sabbath, and actively try to strengthen their community's relationship to Judaism while con-

tinually reinforcing this connection within themselves. It is an ongoing process of religious renewal in which local history and custom confront expanding connections to global religious Jewish networks, thereby broadening, enriching, and complicating the religious experience of this once insular community in unexpected ways.

In my dissertation, I argue that *hazzanim*, synagogue cantors, function as powerful anchors, sustaining a locally rooted Turkish Jewish tradition while creating new possibilities for Jewish experience and scope through musical innovation. Certain *hazzanim* have acquired added influence as guardians of the local musical tradition as well as inventive religious leaders, whose musical, spiritual, and social work bridges local and global Jewish practices to best suit the needs of their community. The local tradition, rooted in centuries of Ottoman Turkish and Judeo-Spanish cross-cultural exchange, complements and competes with music from Israel, Eastern Europe, and elsewhere, revealing changing tastes and a new openness to outside influences. My research objective was to study how *hazzanim*, together with community members, maneuver within different musical and cultural streams, preserving, borrowing, and adapting in an attempt to strengthen a pluralistic and shrinking community's connection to Judaism.

The entire musical framework of Shabbat services in Istanbul is based upon the structures of *makam*, the elaborate system of modes and melody types used in Turkish classical music. In the past, knowledge of *makam* was essential for Turkish Jews attending synagogue. The Bet Yisrael synagogue in Istanbul's Şişli neighborhood is one of the last bastions carrying on the Ottoman Turkish tradition of liturgical singing in its purest form. Chief cantor or *hazzan*, David Sevi, and a host of other talented *hazzanim* at Şişli sustain an important historic repertoire of local liturgical melodies for Shabbat prayers and the chanting of Torah. They also possess extraordinary musical inventiveness, chanting long improvisatory passages of *nusach*, or religious text, effortlessly weaving in and out of multiple *makams*. However, some *hazzanim* lament that many people have "lost their ear for *makam*" and do not know how to listen to it or appreciate it in the way others did in the past.

Some religious Jews in Istanbul waver between unswerving devotion to the survival of tradition and the desire to take portions of the liturgy in new directions. One

important example of the latter can be heard on Shabbat at the Etz Ahayim Synagogue in the neighborhood of Ortaköy along the Bosphorus. Though a relatively smaller synagogue, Ortaköy is packed on Saturday mornings with a lively, multi-generational crowd. One young *hazzan* frequently will adapt more familiar melodies to Hebrew text encouraging the congregation to participate and sing along. He draws from a wide variety of contrasting repertoire including Israeli, Turkish, and Ladino songs. The setting of well-known melodies to liturgical texts creates a useful way to teach the prayers and engage participants who are unfamiliar with the traditional *nusach* (liturgy) and helps to establish a stronger connection to the service.

An individual who has done much to energize spiritual life in the Jewish community is Rabbi Mendy Chitrik, the representative of Chabad in Istanbul. Among his many contributions, are the weekly Shabbat lunches at his home. Cuisine is thoroughly Eastern European in the Ashkenazi tradition, thick with cholent and kishkes and punctuated by the singing of Hassidic Shabbat melodies.

Mendy's mostly Sephardic Jewish guests have developed a passion for these Hassidic tunes. The songs of popular cantor-composers such Avraham Fried and Shlomo Carlbach and many traditional *nigunim*, wordless melodies, are sung each week with raucous abandon. Participants thwack their hands in rhythm against the long dining room tabletop and punch the air as if cheering a beloved Turkish soccer team. This energetic tableside singing of Ashkenazi *nigunim* has been fully embraced along with the slower tunes, some of which Mendy has translated into Turkish from the original Yiddish so that his Sephardic guests might understand the meaning. Although Hassidic song is prominent during the Shabbat meal, Mendy and his guests frequently shift to music of other traditions. At a certain point those present might segue to singing more familiar Sephardic and Middle Eastern Jewish table songs from Turkey and Israel.

These contrasts are representative of how religious musical life in the community is evolving. Jews of Istanbul toy with multiple and at times conflicting expressions of their Jewish, ethnic, and national selves. Turkish Jews, particularly those who are or aspire to be more religious, struggle with, yet take pleasure in, their myriad entanglements with Sephardic, Ashkenazi, Turkish, Israeli, American, and Eastern European ways of being Jewish.



My research this year centered around synagogue life. I participated in daily prayer services in multiple synagogues across Istanbul to better understand the overall structure of the local liturgical tradition and its many intricacies. I interviewed Istanbul's *hazzanim* and recorded their renditions of the liturgical repertoire, both for my own research objectives as well as the urgent need to preserve historic local melodies. I also began learning how to chant the local liturgy from *hazzanim* and had the extraordinary opportunity to stand with them on Shabbat mornings toward the end of my stay and help to lead the congregation in the service.



Edirne Synagogue service

As I continue to write my dissertation, I frequently reflect on my year in Istanbul and how my research and education were truly enriched by many talented individuals in the Jewish, academic, and musician communities of Istanbul who were each generous with their time, knowledge, and loving support. I am deeply grateful to ARIT for giving me the opportunity to pursue this research. I look forward, not only to completing my dissertation and Ph.D., but also to a lifetime of future research and study in Turkey.



Joseph Alpar and the Sefarad Singers

Beyond the synagogue, my field research took me all over Istanbul. There were impromptu music lessons in kosher restaurants, jubilant dancing to Hassidic and Turkish pop songs at weddings and bar mitzvahs, and festive, passionate singing during Shabbat meals at the homes of now treasured friends. I joined busloads of Istanbul Jewish community members to travel to the city western city of Edirne, where I had the chance to observe and participate in prayer services at the newly restored Great Synagogue of Edirne. I also had the privilege of befriending and learning from a number of extraordinary Turkish musicians including my kanun teacher, the esteemed musicologist, composer, and performer, Professor Ruhi Ayangil, who graciously participated in the June concert.

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We would like to receive ARIT news and notes by email:

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