



Fragments of a panel in carved stucco from the Abbasid mosque of Afrasiyab/Samarkand. Afrasiyab Museum, photo by S. Aube 2017.

ONLINE ROUND TABLE AND CONFERENCE

A CARVED HISTORY

NEW RESEARCHES ON MEDIEVAL IRANIAN
STUCCO (8TH – 14TH C.)

For attending the meetings, please register with the convener
(viola.allegranzi@oeaw.ac.at) by January 14, 2021



CONVENER

Dr. Viola Allegranzi
Institute of Iranian Studies
Austrian Academy of Sciences
Hollandstraße 11–13, 1020 Vienna – Austria

Contacts

viola.allegranzi@oeaw.ac.at
+43 6764015134

**A CARVED HISTORY: NEW RESEARCHES ON MEDIEVAL
IRANIAN STUCCO (8TH – 14TH C.)**

ONLINE ROUND TABLE AND CONFERENCE

Stucco (a common term for gypsum plaster) has been extensively used in the architectural decoration of religious and secular monuments in Iran from ancient times, and this tradition has continued after the Islamic conquest, with progressive changes in techniques and imagery. Nevertheless, several stucco corpora retrieved from key historical and archaeological sites across the medieval Persianate world remain understudied. It is only in recent years that some research projects have been launched to investigate these materials with the support of new technologies and cross-disciplinary collaborations. The online round table and conference will provide an opportunity to discuss the methods, outcomes and perspectives of some recent studies, with the objective of enhancing the network of young and experienced scholars currently working on Iranian stuccoes.

The events are organised within the framework of the research programme *Cultural and Social History of Premodern Iran* of the Institute of Iranian Studies of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (dir. Dr. Florian Schwarz).

FRIDAY JANUARY 15, 2021

ONLINE ROUND TABLE

14.30–14.45 **Viola Allegranzi & Florian Schwarz** | Austrian Academy of Sciences
Welcome address

14.45–15.45 **Session 1 – Moderator: Sandra Aube**

Andrea Luigi Corsi | Sapienza Università di Roma
*Abbasid stuccowork from the Friday Mosque of Isfahan:
An archaeological approach*

Iman Aghajani & Moslem Mishmastnehi | Universität Bamberg
*Stucco decoration in the Imamzadeh Abdullah in Kuzdar (Markazi province,
Iran): Art historical and archaeometric analyses*

Martina Rugiadi | The MET, New York
*Disassembled. Archaeology of the Met's Seljuq plaster figure with feathered
headdress*

15.45–16.00 BREAK

16.00–17.00 **Session 2 – Moderator: Martina Rugiadi**

Valentina Laviola | Università di Napoli "L'Orientale"
Communicating the stucco corpus from Ghazni via an online database

Ana Marija Grbanovic | Universität Bamberg
Ilkhanid stuccoes in Iran c. 1300: Beyond the stylistic idiosyncrasies

Richard McClary | University of York
*The uses of stucco in the dar al-Islam: A new project to bring together the
latest research*

FRIDAY JANUARY 22, 2021

14.30–16.30 CET

ONLINE CONFERENCE

**STUCCOES ATTRIBUTED TO THE EARLY ABBASID AND SAMANID PERIODS
FROM THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF –AFRASIYAB/SAMARKAND**

Speakers: **Frantz Grenet** | Collège de France, Paris – **Viola Allegranzi** | Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna – **Sandra Aube** | CeRMI-CNRS, Paris – **Richard McClary** | University of York

Since the late 19th century, archaeological excavations have been carried out in the ancient and medieval site known as Afrasiyab, located in the north-eastern part of modern Samarkand. A fair amount of stucco finds have been retrieved through several campaigns from the ruins of religious and civil buildings dating back to the first centuries of Islam (8th-10th c.). This conference aims at drawing attention to these little known materials, which deserve fresh examination and broader consideration from a comparative perspective.

Prof. Grenet will introduce the site and the recent activities of the Mission Archéologique Franco-Ouzbèke de Sogdiane (MAFOuz, 1989-). Dr. Allegranzi and Dr. Aube will present the corpus of stucco fragments uncovered in the first Abbasid mosque of Samarkand. Dr. McClary will deal with the stuccoes that once adorned some residences ascribed to the Samanid period.

For attending the meetings, please register with the convener (viola.allegranzi@oeaw.ac.at) by January 14, 2021