

Evie-Marie Holmberg

Professor of Classics & Ecclesiastical/Patristic Greek Language and Literature
Holy Cross School of Theology

Adjunct professor of Classics
Boston University

Art Conservator

BA, History and Archaeology, Athens University
Art Conservation, Fog Art Museum, Harvard University
PhD, Classical Studies, Boston University

Evie Holmberg is a professor of Classics and Early Christian Literature. She is also an Art Conservator/Restorer Her latest work concentrates on symbolic representations in myth as they relate to ancient spiritual paths and experiences produced through prayer, meditation and recent controlled experiments in psychoanalysis. She has also done extensive work in Art Conservation/Restoration and its relation to the social and cultural environments that influence the reconstruction and exhibition of ancient art.

Evie Holmberg joined the Faculties of Hellenic College and Holy Cross in 1979 and she held a joint appointment in both Schools as a professor of Classics and Ecclesiastical Greek since 1993. Since 2013 she is professor of Classics & Ecclesiastical Greek Language and Literature at Holy Cross. Since 1977 she has also worked as director of research projects and art conservator at the Fog Art Museum Harvard University, L.A. County Museum and the Museum of Fine Arts Boston. Because of the breadth and diversity of her background she has adopted an interdisciplinary and diachronic approach in her scholarship and teaching. Her work and publications include sample analysis of works of art for the determination of their dating, provenance and history of restoration, translations and commentary of Greek texts of Classical, Hellenistic, Byzantine and Modern Greek origin, as well as diachronic and comparative historical studies.

Her latest publications include the following books: Venizelos' Comments on Thucydides' History of the Peloponnesian Wars – edited from Venizelos' handwritten notes - ,Lessons Unlearned: Venizelos and Thucydides on Propaganda and the Struggle for Power- a historical diachronic comparative study-, The Service of the Vespers& The Service of the Orthros – an interlinear translation with an introduction and commentary. Commentary on the Book of Exodus: First Discourse by Saint Cyril of Alexandria Translated and Edited . Her recent publications also include her papers presented yearly at the International Conference on Arts and Humanities in Honolulu Hawaii from 2007-to the present in the areas of Art Conservation/Restoration, Art History and the Classics. These recent publications

aim at creating an interdisciplinary approach and new interests in the areas of Classical Studies, Art History, Art Conservation/Restoration and Museum Science.

Evie Holmberg is also an Art Conservator/restorer who has worked in the Fogg Art Museum (Harvard University), LA County Museum, National Art Gallery and Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Her latest work combines her background in Classics, Archaeology, Art History and Art Conservation in a major project presenting the study, conservation and restoration of ancient Greek works of art from the permanent collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, as well as the greater implications of such reconstructions within the field of Archaeology, Art History and culture. Other important works of art from museums around the world are examined for comparison purposes. The political agendas involved in certain of these reconstructions as well as the general conclusions that can be drawn with regard to the factors involved in our interpretation of ancient works of art as well as our inability or refusal to relate to the original intent of the ancient artist, are being discussed.

As part of this project she has been presenting papers on the examination, analysis, conservation and restoration of works of art at the International Hawaii Conferences on Arts and Humanities for the past 7 years. The first one was presented at the 2007 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities with the title: **The Technology of Beauty: Studies in Analysis, Conservation & Restoration of Ancient and Early Byzantine Works of Art from the Permanent Collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.** The second paper was presented at the 2008 conference with the title: **The Greek Perception of Beauty: A vehicle of Communication that Transcends Space and Time.** The third was presented at the 2009 conference with the title: **Ancient Greek Pottery: The Craft as a Work of Art and a Window into Greek Society.** The fourth presented in 2010 had the title: **Art and Deception in Reconstructing the Beauty of the Past. How Far Can a Restoration Go?** The paper presented in 2011 had the title: **How Much Do Our Learned Aesthetic Evaluations Influence the Way We Reconstruct the Art of Antiquity.** The paper presented in 2012 had the title: **Learned Aesthetic Values and National Propaganda: Reconstructing the Art of Antiquity to Satisfy a Particular Agenda.** It drew upon the previous paper and was a natural continuation of the conclusions presented therein. The component “politics” was added as an important factor in the way we reconstruct and project the art of antiquity. The paper presented in 2013 had the title: **Art in the Service of Deception: How Much Can We Get Away With?** It traced our attempts to reconstruct certain facial characteristics (the human chin in this case) basing our guidelines on cultural preconceived ideas and disregarding the original intent of the ancient artist.

The paper submitted for the 2014 Hawaii International Conference has the title: **THE SACRED AND THE PROFANE: ARTISTIC EXPRESSION VERSUS INTELLECTUAL INTERPRETATION.** This paper makes the connection between the classical perception of beauty and our limitations to relate to this ideal as explained by Plato in his allegory of the Cave.

The purpose of this project is to encourage an interdisciplinary approach with regard to works of art, one that takes into consideration most of the aspects connected with their

production, their importance within the society which produced them as well as their influence on subsequent generations and the ways in which they are perceived today. Her working and teaching experience as a professor of Classics, an archaeologist, art conservator and artist makes such a task an interesting and edifying project. This interdisciplinary approach will create new interests in the areas of Classical Studies, Art History, Art Conservation/Restoration and Museum Science.

Courses recently taught:

Hellenic College/ Holy Cross School of Theology:

Ancient Greek Culture (an overview of the history, literature and art of the Ancient Greeks and their influence on the development of modern western thought).

New Testament, Liturgical & Patristic Greek Language and Literature (Courses employing a Diachronic and comparative approach in the study of texts of the New Testament, the early Apologists, the Capadocian Fathers and Classical Greek authors.

Boston University, Dept. of Classics:

Early Christian Literature

Reading Greek

Modern Greek I, II, III, IV

Ancient Greek I, II

Homer

Modern Greek Literature

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EDUCATION

Boston University: Ph.D. in Classics, 1988. Dissertation on a comparative and interdisciplinary subject on Classical and Modern Greek History, Literature and Language: “Venizelos’ Commentary on Thucydides’ History of the Peloponnesian War”.

Boston University: M.A. in Archaeology and Classics, 1982.

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Director of a research project on various methods of analysis of material from archaeological excavations to determine age and provenance, 1979-1981

The Museum School, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

1977-1978 Applied Arts, Sculpture

Harvard University, Fogg Art Museum: Diploma in Art Conservation, 1977

Institut Francais, Athens: Bacalaureat in French Literature, 1973

Athens University: B. A. in History and Archaeology, 1972

British Council, Athens: Diploma in English Literature, 1971

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

1. Hellenic College, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology

1990-present Tenured Professor of Classics and Modern Greek Studies & Ecclesiastical/Patristic Greek Language and Literature, Hellenic College/Holy Cross Orthodox School of Theology, Tenured Professor of Ecclesiastical Greek, Holy Cross

Orthodox School of Theology. Developed and taught courses in New Testament Greek (core), Septuagint Greek (core), the early Greek Apologists, the Cappadocian Fathers and Cyril of Alexandria. These courses are offered in the graduate School of Theology with cross-registration with Hellenic College and the B.T.I. The approach is diachronic and interdisciplinary, tracing the development of the Greek Language from the Koine to Modern Greek through Byzantine Greek and comparing it with its origins in Classical Attic. Developed and taught courses in Ancient Greek Culture, Ancient Greek Art, Byzantine Art, Art Conservation and treatment / preparation of archaeological finds and artifacts for exhibition.

1988-1990 Associate Professor, Hellenic College/Holy Cross. Developed and taught courses with a diachronic approach in the whole spectrum of the Greek Language from Ancient to Modern Greek. Special concentration in Ecclesiastical Greek.

Developed and taught courses in Literature, History and Art History.

1988-1989 Sabbatical year in Athens, Greece. Visiting Professor, Deree College, Athens, Greece. Developed and taught courses in the Classical Age of Greece and in Myth and Religion.

1990 (Summer) Visiting Professor, Deree College.

1985-1988 Assistant Professor, Greek Studies, Hellenic College/Holy Cross

1979-1985 Instructor, Greek Studies, Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology.

Deree College, Athens, Greece

1988-1989 Visiting Professor. Developed and taught courses in Ancient Greek History, Art and Myth & Religion.

1990 (Summer) Visiting Professor. Developed and taught a course in the Classical Age in Athens.

Boston University

- 2006- present Adjunct Professor, Dept. of Classics
- 1980-1984 Teaching Fellow in Classical Studies. Taught courses in Ancient Greek Language and Literature, Ancient Greek Culture and Myth, Boston University.
- 1978-1980 Teaching Fellow in Archaeology. Developed and taught a two semester course in Art Conservation and Research and established an Archaeological Conservation program at Boston University. The Department of Archaeology at Boston University received a two-year grant for Archaeological Conservation through her credentials as the Art Conservator who taught at the program.

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

- 1997-2003 Consultant
- 1979-1981 Director of a research project on the examination, analysis and dating of works of art and archaeological finds through X-Ray Diffraction, X-Ray Fluorescence, Emission Spectroscopy and Atomic Absorption. The program was funded by the National Museum Grant Act and was carried out at the research lab, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

National Art Gallery, Washington D.C.

- 1974-1977 Art Conservator, Kress Collection of Renaissance Bronzes and Medallions, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

This project was carried out during one week monthly spent at the National Art Gallery while studying at the Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University.

L. A. County Museum, Los Angeles, CA

1976 (Summer) Art Conservator, Center for Art Conservation and Research, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles. Director of a project for the treatment and preparation for exhibition of approximately one hundred Indian Bronzes.

Harvard University, Fogg Art Museum

1974-1977 Studies in Art Conservation & working as an Art Conservator (traveling as a consultant and delivering lectures)

Joint American Expedition to Idalion, Cyprus.

1974 Art Conservator

Hellenic Export Promotion Council, Athens, Greece

1973-1974 . Conducted research for promoting greek export.

Greek-American Institute, Athens, Greece

1968-1972 Instructor, Greek-American Institute, Athens, Greece. Developed and taught courses in English Language and Literature.

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

“Learned Aesthetic Values and National Propaganda: Reconstructing the Art of Antiquity to Satisfy a Particular Agenda” Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities, Hawaii, Honolulu, 2012.

“The Bull, the Inner Journey and the Mushroom as a Facilitator for the Experience” 4th International Scientific Conference on “The Stone Mushrooms of Thrace”, Alexandroupolis, Greece, October 2011.

“How Much Do Our Learned Aesthetic Evaluations Influence the Way We Reconstruct the Art of Antiquity” Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities, Hawaii, Honolulu, 2011.

“Art and Deception in Reconstructing the Beauty of the Past. How far Can a Restoration Go?” Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities, Hawaii, Honolulu, 2010

“Ancient Greek Pottery: the Craft as a Work of Art and a Window into Greek Society” Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities, Hawaii, Honolulu, 2009

“The Greek Perception of Beauty: A Vehicle that Transcends Space and Time” Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities, Hawaii, Honolulu, 2008

“The Technology of Beauty: Studies in Analysis, Conservation & Restoration of Ancient Greek and Early Byzantine Works of Art from the Permanent Collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston”. Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities, Hawaii, Honolulu, 2007.

(The above have all been published in the Conference Proceedings)

“How Much Do Our Learned Aesthetic Evaluations Influence the Way We Reconstruct the Past”? Servant of the Gospel, Studies in Honor of His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, Holy Cross Orthodox Press, Brookline, Massachusetts, 2011.

“The Technology of Beauty”, Legacy of Achievement, Newrome Press LLC, Palmyra, VA, 2008.

“From the Language of the Scriptures to Modern Greek”, Legacy of Achievement, Newrome Press LLC, Palmyra, VA, 2008.

The Martyrdom of Ananias (co-author with Francois Bovon, Professor of New Testament, Harvard University) Harvard University Press, 1999.

The Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles (Article on the language of the Apocryphal Acts), Harvard University Press, 1999.

"Internal Dissension and the Greek Leader", *Journal of Modern Hellenism*, 7, 1990.

"Thucydides, Venizelos and Modern Scholarship", *Journal of Modern Hellenism*, 5, 1988.

"Venizelos' Commentary on Thucydides' History of the Peloponnesian War", *Journal of Modern Hellenism*, 4, 1987.

"Analysis of 30 Pottery Samples from the Joint Expedition of Boston University and Tito Velles Museum of Yugoslavia", *Journal of Field Archaeology*, 1982.

"Identification of Pigments Used on 14th Century Persian Miniature Paintings", Second Annual Art Conservation Training Programs Conference, University of Delaware, 1977.

Books

Commentary on the Book of Exodus: First Discourse by Saint Cyril of Alexandria
Translated and Edited by Evie Zachariades-Holmberg Orthodox Research Institute,
August 2010

Lessons Unlearned: Venizelos and Thucydides on Propaganda and the r for Power,
University of Minnesota Press, 2003

Service of Vespers, Selected Passages, an Interlinear Study Guide, Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 1992
Service of Orthros, Selected Passages, an Interlinear Study Guide, Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 1992

Venizelos' Comments on Thucydides' History of the Peloponnesian War, The Museum Dedicated to the Memory of Eleutherios Venizelos -Lesche Fileleutheron- Athens, Greece, 1991.

TRANSLATIONS

Books

Methodios of Constantinople the Confessor, Evening Vespers and Small Compline, Greek Orthodox Diocese of Boston, 1999.

John N. Karmiris, The Status and Ministry of the Laity in the Orthodox Church, Holy Cross Press, 1994.

The Akathist Hymn and Small Compline, Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 1992.

Forthcoming:

Books

The Great Vespers and Pentecost

Service of Making a Catechumen

The Order of the Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

The Sacraments of Holy Matrimony

WORKS CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS

Books

Cyril of Alexandria: About the Birth of Moses, First Speech. A translation of the text (for the first time in English) with an introduction and commentary on the literary style, the

ecclesiastical mannerisms and the adherence or deviation from the Classical Attic language. The book includes a list of the basic vocabulary used by Cyril as well as examples of grammatical constructions favored by the author. This work will be the first of a series of publications of translation and commentary of texts which present challenges in their grammatical construction, have not been translated into English and illustrate the development of the Greek language from the Classical Attic to Modern Greek. These publications are also intended to be used as text books for advanced studies in Ancient Greek since they exhibit a great variety of forms of diction, a great wealth of vocabulary and they illustrate the complexity and occasionally the difficulty of expression when the authors regress into archaic styles in order to impress their audiences.

The Technology of Beauty: Studies in Analysis, Conservation & Restoration of Ancient and Early Byzantine Works of Art from the Permanent Collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston . This work includes the various stages of the preparation of an art object for exhibition, the history of its provenance, a technical description of the way it was produced in Antiquity, and a step by step description of its restoration and conservation brought to completion by the author in the Museum's conservation lab. The whole project is illustrated with hundreds of before, during and after treatment photos.

Material from this work has already been used in various courses for demonstration of Museum procedures in cleaning, preserving, restoring and exhibiting works of Art.

LECTURES

“Art and Deception in Reconstructing the Beauty of the Past” Boston University,

December 2009

“Ancient Greek Pottery: the Craft as a Work of Art and a Window into Greek Society”

Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities, Hawaii, Honolulu, 2009

“The Greek Perception of Beauty: A Vehicle that Transcends Space and Time” Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities, Hawaii, Honolulu, 2008

“The Technology of Beauty: Studies in Analysis, Conservation & Restoration of Ancient Greek and Early Byzantine Works of Art from the Permanent Collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston”. Hawaii International Conference on Arts & Humanities, Hawaii, Honolulu, 2007.

“From Ancient to Modern Greek” Boston University, Department of Classics, 2006

“Restoring some of the most important objects of the MFA Classical Greek collection to the appearance originally intended by the ancient artist.” Museum of Fine Arts Boston 2002

“Conservation and Restoration in the Greek Galleries at MFA” A major project undertaken by Prof. Evie Holmberg for the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Museum of Fine Arts Boston 2001.

"Comments on the Development of the Greek Language", Hellenic College, 1995.

"Modern Greek Studies in America", Hellenic College, 1994.

"Ancient Greek Art as it is Perceived by Byzantium and the Italian Renaissance", Boston College, 1993.

"Ancient Greek Art as it is Perceived by Byzantium and the Italian Renaissance", Boston College, 1993.

"Venizelos and Thucydides. A Modern Greek Politician Interprets Thucydides' Political Thought", Hellenic Archaeological Society, Athens, Greece, 1991.

"The Development of Greek Art Viewed in a Comparative Perspective", Diocese of Boston, 1990.

Boston, 1990. "The Development of Greek Art Viewed in a Comparative Perspective", Diocese of Boston.

"Some Important Characteristics of Ancient Greek Art", Open House, Hellenic College, 1984.

"The Problem of Nouns of Feminine Gender of the Greek Language as it was viewed in Antiquity", the InterUniversity Consortium for the Teaching of Greek in the English Speaking World, Boston, 1983.

"On Pigment Identification", Winterthur Student Training Conference, Winterthur, Delaware, 1976

"Studies in Technology, Pottery and Metals", Boston University, 1981.

"An Evaluation and Comparison of Analytical Procedures Used to Identify Pigments in Fourteenth Century Persian Miniatures", the Second Gettens International Memorial Seminar, Boston, 1977.

SCHOLARSHIPS

1987 Graduate School Dissertation Scholarship, Boston University.

1978-1986 Full Scholarship, Boston University.

1974-1977 Full Scholarship, Harvard University.

GRANTS

National Museum Grant Act 1979-1981.

AWARDS

Selected as the Angela J. and James J. Rallis Humanities Scholar for the year 1986.

LANGUAGES

Greek, Latin, French

Studies in English and French Literature.

BOOK REVIEWS

Modern Greek Short Stories by Nicholas Kostis, Journal of Modern Greek Studies, John Hopkins University Press, 1995.

Eleftherios Venizelos. The Trials of Statesmanship to appear in Greece and the United States within 2009

Served in Examining Committees For the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

Boston University , Interdisciplinary Studies, Classics and Modern Greek Literature, 1994.