

State Institute for Art Studies
calls for collaboration on the running of the
Art of the Byzantine World. Individuality of Artistic Creativity
international science conference

The problem of individuality in the art of the Byzantine world is one of the most complex.

On the one hand, the sources mention just a few names of architects, painters or sculptors. This fact, as well as the character of many art works, enables us to think that the Byzantine artists did not strive to accentuate their individuality, but worked in compliance with certain canons and types. It has become habitual to think of Byzantine art as of a process evolving according to certain rules and to analyze each monument in the context of development of some architectural typology, iconographic or stylistic tradition.

On the other hand, it becomes all the more evident that many art works do not fit into these patterns. It is also clear that the canons and rules in Byzantine art were not very rigid, they allowed the artist to embody some basic types and ideas in different forms that could change depending on time and place or on the artist's individual interpretation.

Therefore we would like to put forward the individuality of the art work creators: the donator, the artist or the both. We would like to focus the attention of specialists on the following problems in studying the art of Byzantium and other countries under its' cultural influence from the 5th to the 15th c.:

- How the new ideas were born in art and architecture and how the great works created by outstanding individuals could start new trends in art?
- What was the role of an individual in creating the artistic image? What was the relationship of general and individual features in different art works?
- How an individual manner of an artist may be singled out and what problems arise in the attribution of Byzantine art works?
- How did metropolitan and provincial influences manifested themselves in the works of Byzantine artists?
- How could the artists and donators modify the existing norms of typology, iconography, style and technique?

The conference's coordinators: Anna Zakharova, Armen Kazaryan, Irina Oretskaia

The secretary of the organizing committee: Olga Ovcharova

E-mail: o_ovtcharova@yahoo.com

The conference will be held **in Moscow** by the State Institute for Art Studies and Lomonosov Moscow State University on **November 7-9, 2018**.

The time limit for presentations is **20 minutes**.

The conference materials will be **published**.

We kindly ask those who wish to participate in the conference to send the provisional **title** of the paper **by March 31** and the **abstract** (250-350 words) **by June 30**.