

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### Don Juan Archiv Wien International Symposium

Vienna 2014

### OTTOMAN EMPIRE & EUROPEAN THEATRE VI

The historical importance of the Ottoman Empire's presence in Europe is highlighted by its frequent appearance in theatre, music and arts. The aim of Don Juan Archiv Wien's annual symposia entitled *Ottoman Empire and European Theatre*, alternately hosted in Vienna and Istanbul since 2008, is to explore, on the one hand, the various performative expressions of seventeenth and eighteenth-century Ottoman culture and diplomacy on European theatre stages, and on the other hand, the appearance of European theatre and opera in the Ottoman Empire, and the Ottoman attitude towards Europe.

The symposium in 2014 will follow in the footsteps of the past conferences: in 2008, which marked the 200th anniversary of Sultan Selim III's death and was entitled 'The Age of Sultan Selim III and Mozart (1756–1808)'; in 2009, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Joseph Haydn's death, 'The Time of Joseph Haydn: From Sultan Mahmud I to Mahmud II (r.1730–1839)'; in 2010 on the 200th anniversary of Lord Byron's visit to Constantinople, 'Seraglios and Harems', and in 2011 on the 250th anniversary of Christoph W. Gluck's *Don Juan ou le festin de pierre* and *Le cadi dupé* (Vienna 1761), the theme was 'The Turkish Subject in Ballet and Dance from the Sixteenth Century to the Time of Christoph W. Gluck (1714-1787)'. In 2012 the symposia series continued with a conference entitled 'Translating Orientalism: Towards New Epistemological Approaches to Processes of Identity Building'. The 2013 symposium was devoted to the theme 'ambassadors in the Ottoman-European relations' and this topic will be addressed also in 2014.

The 2014 conference will take place on the occasion of the 630<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first Ottoman Envoy to Venice in 1384 and will explore:

#### ***Culture of Politics or Cultural Politics – Act Two:***

#### **Representation, Theatricality and Cultural Transfer in the Ottoman-European Diplomatic Relations**

*On the Occasion of the 630<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first Ottoman Envoy to Venice in 1384*

**5-6 June 2014**

**Vienna, Don Juan Archiv Wien**

Diplomats recurrently appear in various fields of not only political but also cultural history. A special aspect of diplomats is observed in the reciprocal relations of the Ottoman Empire with its European counterparts beginning in the fourteenth century and reaching the peak of its frequency particularly during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. According to the

Austrian diplomat, orientalist and first president of the Austrian Academy of Sciences Joseph von Hammer-Purgstall (1774–1856), who initially compiled in his monumental *Geschichte des Osmanischen Reiches* (Pesth, 10 vols., 1827–1835) a register of envoys and ambassadors to and from the Ottoman Empire, the first given Ottoman ambassador is dated 1318 and sent to Al-Nasir Muhammad, Mamluk Sultan of Egypt (r. 1309–1341, third reign), and the first given ambassador to the Ottoman Empire (Edirne the Ottoman capital then) is dated 1346 and from the Byzantine Empire.

### **First Diplomatic exchanges between the Ottoman Empire and the States Europe**

The Ottoman Empire sent the first given envoy to a state in Europe in 1384 and it was an anonymous delegate who was sent to Venice. Further according to Hammer-Purgstall, the earliest envoys sent to the Ottoman Empire are as follows: the Republic of Venice, under doge Giovanni Dolfin (r. 1356–1361), sent Leonardo Contarini and Marino Venier in 1360; the Apostolic Kingdom of Hungary sent, during the reign of Sigismund of Luxemburg (r. 1387–1437), an anonymous envoy in 1394; the Republic of Genova, under doge Pietro di Campofregoso (r. 1450–1458), an envoy of likewise unknown name in 1451; the Kingdom of Poland, during the reign of Casimir II Jagiellon (r. 1447–1492) sent envoy Wurocimovieki [sic] in 1476 ; the Kingdom of Naples, during the reign of Ferdinand I (r. 1458–1494), envoys of unknown names in 1479 and in 1485; the Grand Principality of Moscow, during the reign of Ivan III (r. 1462–1505), Michael Plesttschejef in 1495; the Duchy of Milan under the government of Ludovico Sforza byname The Moor (r. 1489–1508) sent in 1494 (as given by Hammer-Purgstall) Angelo de Lavallo to Kostantiniyye. Apart from the Holy Roman Empire, the next states to launch diplomatic contacts with the Ottoman Empire were the Kingdom of Portugal during the reign of John III (r. 1521–1557), sending Odoardo Cataneo in 1544, and the Grand Principality of Transylvania during the reign of John Sigismund Zápolya (r. 1556–1571), sending Nicolas Orbay and Franz Balogh in 1568.

Regarding the earliest diplomatic relations between the Ottoman and the Holy Roman Empire, in 1497 an Ottoman subject of Greek Catholic origin, Andrea Graeco Pontcaracca was posted as envoy of Sultan Bayezid II (r. 1481–1512) and was sent to the court of Emperor Maximilian I (r. 1486–1519) then residing at Innsbruck in Tyrol. Several envoys to the Holy Roman Empire sent by other sovereigns reported on the journey and arrival of the Ottoman legate who stayed between 24 July and 10 October at the Holy Roman Court; these envoys were: the Venetian Giorgio Pisani, the Milanese Erasmo Brascha, the Neapolitan Francesco de Montebas, the Spanish Gutierre Gomez de Fuensalida, and Leonello Chierigati, envoy of the Holy See.

This official diplomatic encounter of the representatives of the Ottoman and Holy Roman Empires took place near the Cistercian Abbey Stams in Tyrol. Maximilian I received envoy Pontcaracca in presence of his second wife, Bianca Maria Sforza, Princess of Milan (1472–1510). On occasion of this visit, an entertainment program comprising banquets and rides as well as hunting parties in the vicinity of Stams Abbey was realized. Pontcaracca got his final

audience by the Emperor I in Hall, a township in Tyrol in the East of Innsbruck, where the Ottoman delegation also resided.

Following this diplomatic visit, the Emperor decided that also from his part a delegacy should be sent to the court of the Sultan. Such an imperial delegacy, consisting of the representatives Johannes von Thun, Francesco Bonomo and twelve knights, set off to Kostantiniyye in 1498. This first diplomatic exchange between the two Empires resulted in a one-year armistice which came into effect in 1499. This embassy is not reported by Hammer-Purgstall who, as next envoys of the Holy Roman Empire to the Ottoman Empire, sent under the reign of Charles V (r. 1519–1556), indicates Johann Hobordansky von Salathnok and Sigmund Weixelberger in 1521.

### ***Sefâretnâmes***

Ottoman envoys and ambassadors, representing ‘The Grand Turk’, ‘Le Grand Seigneur’, ‘Il Gran Signore’, or the “Großtürke” as well as symbolizing the ‘[Muslim] Orient’, illustrate a momentous cultural transfer to prevail up today. Regarding the Ottoman aspect to the cultural role of diplomacy, *sefâretnâmes* – the embassy reports of the ambassadors – bear a quintessential substance and are a topic also to be addressed in this year’s conference: There are up to date 50 such documents known to exist. The earliest of these documents known to date categorically considered as *sefâretnâme* dates as early as 1419 and was written during the reign of Mehmed I (r. 1413–1421) by Hoca Gıyaseddin Nakkaş, the envoy of Shahrukh Mirza (r. 1405–1447), then ruler of the Timurid Empire, on the mission to China reigned by Emperor Yongle (r. 1402–1424; Ming Dynasty). The latest *sefâretnâme* dates from the reign of Sultan Abdülhamid II (r. 1876–1909) and relates to the envoy Mehmed Tahir Münif Paşa’s 1877 mission to Persia, at the time ruled by Nasser al-Din Shah Qajar (r. 1848–1896). The highest amount of *Sefâretnâmes*, 37, has been written on Ottoman missions to ten different European states: to Hungary (one report, 1495), to the Holy Roman Empire (eight reports, 1665–1792), to Russia (eight reports, 1721–1794), France (eight reports, 1721–1845), Poland (three reports, 1730–1758), Sweden (one report, 1732), Prussia (three reports, 1763–1798), Spain (one report, 1787), Great Britain (three reports, 1793–1832) and Austria (one report on Lombardy-Milan, 1838). These embassy reports bear a significant locus in cultural history as they served as a direct instrument which enabled cultural transfer through the diplomacy of their time.

### **Papers for the 2014 Conference**

The conference in 2014, alike the previous one in 2013, will fundamentally be devoted to explore the cultural roles of diplomacy between the Ottoman Empire and European states from the beginnings until the early nineteenth century, and should especially focus on the earliest diplomatic missions between the Ottoman Empire and Europe beginning in the fourteenth century with their cultural aspects, as well as the later influences of Ottoman-European diplomacy to theatre history, considering that embassies essentially had an outstanding theatrical character on their own.

**Thus, for the conference of 2014, proposals are welcome which address the cultural parameters of the earliest diplomatic missions between the Ottoman Empire and Europe, elements of cultural transfer in Ottoman *sefâretnâmes*, and the forms of representation and theatricality in this framework.**

When considering that diplomacy is inherently representation, and representation is theatrical as such, then this is an impetus to figure and evaluate forms of theatricality to be found in the very backdrop of Ottoman-European relations from their onset.

A General Register of Ambassadors to and from the Ottoman Empire  
composed by Don Juan Archiv Wien is online:

<http://archive.donjuanarchiv.at/go/bot/>

A General Register of Ottoman *sefâretnâmes*  
composed by Don Juan Archiv Wien is online:

<http://archive.donjuanarchiv.at/go/sefaretnames>

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Don Juan Archiv Wien invites you to submit abstracts and participate in the *Ottoman Empire and European Theatre* symposium in 2014 by sharing your scholarship and achievements in the fields of Ottoman-European history of diplomacy, theatre, dance, music and arts, cultural and performance studies. We especially welcome interdisciplinary contributions.

For further information and updates as for examples of topics addressed at the 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2013 symposia, please see [www.donjuanarchiv.at/veranstaltungen/symposia](http://www.donjuanarchiv.at/veranstaltungen/symposia).

**Key words:** history of diplomacy, ambassadors, embassy reports, Ottoman *sefâretnâmes*, diplomatic protocol, diplomatic gifts, cultural history, theatre studies, music studies, history of art, Turqueries, Ottoman culture and diplomacy.

### **Organiser**

Don Juan Archiv Wien, in cooperation with UNESCO International Theatre Institute in Vienna, The Austrian Cultural Forum in Istanbul and with the Pera Museum and Istanbul Research Institute of the Suna and İnan Kıraç Foundation.

### **Conference Convenors**

**Michael Hüttler, Matthias J. Pernerstorfer, Suna Suner, H. E. Weidinger**

## **Dates and Venues**

Vienna, Austria: June 5-6, 2014, at Don Juan Archiv Wien, Trautsonsgasse 6/6, 1080 Vienna.

## **Paper Proposals**

Scholars and artists who wish to present papers are invited to submit proposals containing the following:

1. a **one-page abstract** of the proposed paper naming the presenter(s);
2. **contact information**, including name, title, position, university or institutional affiliation, postal address, telephone, fax, and email; and
3. a **75-100-word biographical sketch** of the presenter(s), including recent publications.

**Please submit proposals to:  
symposium(at)donjuanarchiv(dot)at**

The official language of the symposia is English. Each presentation should last thirty minutes (plus fifteen minutes for discussion). Papers presented will be published subsequently in a print volume.

**Deadline for submission of proposals: January 31, 2014**

For updated programme and further information please contact:

**Don Juan Archiv Wien**

Trautsonsgasse 6/6, A-1080 Vienna; phone: +43-1-2365605-211 fax: +43-1-2365605-230  
e-mail: symposium(at)donjuanarchiv(dot)at