**The 4th Byzantine Studies Conference**

from the series of

Chosen Aspects of the Byzantine Culture,

entitled

**Word and Image in the Byzantine Culture**

Lublin, 16-17 November 2017 (Thursday-Friday)

The Holy Trinity Chapel (Kaplica św. Trójcy)

Organisers:

Lublin Museum (Muzeum Lubelskie w Lublinie)

Department of History of the Church in Antiquity and the Middle Ages, KUL (Catholic University Of Lublin)

Department of Ancient and Byzantine History, KUL

This conference will be dedicated to the analysis of literary descriptions and images, particularly icons and frescoes, important for the Byzantine culture. In terms of written works, descriptions from the sources of events important for the life of Constantinople court and patriarchate, religious events as such, battles, ethnogenesis and ethnography of barbarian nations, as well as descriptions of cities or their respective buildings will be considered. Attention will also be given to methodological considerations on the essence of ekphrasis in antiquity and the Middle Ages. In this perspective, an important place is taken by the question of the origins of these descriptions and their historical transmission leading to the creation of a specific literary topos. The next link is, finally, the impact of individual Byzantine literary topoi on the Western European authors. Therefore, it will be a presentation of these fragments from the literary sources which can be regarded as a kind of key-descriptions which, in turn, played a model role in the history of the Byzantine literature and contributed to the emergence of a distinctive spirit of the Byzantine literature.

Similar problems are present in the area of graphic representations. They include, amongst other things, mosaics and icons important for the culture of Byzantium, i.e. Christ-Pantocrator and the Mother of God, in the context of their origins and their religious, historical and social functions, and then with regard to their transmission in time and space. In this way the graphical topos places itself beside the literary topos. Both the Byzantine literary topos as well as the Byzantine graphical topos have numerous links to their counterparts in the western part of Europe. This conference will serve to extract all of the above-mentioned elements. We invite historians and art historians as well as archaeologists, classical philologists, historians of philosophy, patrologists and all those who are interested in the topic.

The organisers predict the necessity of making the conference fee of approx. 50 EUROS, which will cover the costs of conference materials and meals (including the formal dinner). The conference fee does not cover accommodation costs, which every participant has to cover himself/herself. The conference fee can be paid after arrival to Lublin. The relevant invoice will be issued by the management of “Dom na Podwalu” (ul. Podwale 15, 20-117 Lublin, phone no. 81 532 41 38; website: http://domnapodwalu.pl, e-mail: recepcja@domnapodwalu.pl).

Applications for participation in the conference should be emailed before the 1st of October 2017 to the organisers: lu2005harn@yahoo.de (Prof. Piotr Kochanek) or p\_szczur@kul.pl (Rev. Prof. Piotr Szczur).

**We kindly ask you to fill in the following „Participant’s Card” and send it back to the Organisers:** **lu2005harn@yahoo.de** **(Prof. Piotr Kochanek) or p\_szczur@kul.pl (Rev. Prof. Piotr Szczur) before the 1st of October 2017.**

**Name and surname:**

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| **Accommodation in „Dom na Podwalu”:** | YES | NO |
| Accommodation 15/16 November (Wednesday/Thursday) |  |  |
| Accommodation 16/17 November (Thursday/Friday) |  |  |
| Accommodation 17/18 November (Friday/Saturday) |  |  |

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| **Meals in „Dom na** | **Podwalu”** | YES | NO |
| 15 November (Wednesday) | Dinner |  |  |
| 16 November (Thursday) | Breakfast |  |  |
|  | Lunch |  |  |
|  | Dinner |  |  |
| 17 November (Friday) | Breakfast |  |  |
|  | Lunch |  |  |
|  | **Formal Dinner** |  |  |
| 18 November (Saturday) | Breakfast |  |  |