The Land Between Two Seas: Art on the Move in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea 1300-1700 brings together scholars focusing on the strong riverine ties that connect the seas of the Mediterranean system (from the Western Mediterranean through the Sea of Marmara, the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov) and the hinterland. The two-day conference will examine spaces, artworks and stories from the territories North of the Danube (Poland, eastern Hungary and parts of Transylvania), the Adriatic and Eastern Mediterranean (Constantinople, and the Dalmatian and Illyrian coasts) and the Black Sea and its Eastern neighbors. On the cusp between cultures and religions—mostly Eastern Orthodox (apart from e.g., Hungary, Dalmatia and Poland), and mostly of Slavic language (apart from e.g., Romania)—these principalities, kingdoms and fiefdoms came to embody hybridity, to act as a form of buffer or cultural “switching” system that assimilated, translated and linked the cultures of Central Asia with the western European ones.

This conference is the final stage in a multi-year project organized by Alina Payne (I Tatti / Harvard University), which sought to address the mediating role of the Balkans between East and West and their northern neighbors all the way to Poland and Lithuania, as well as this region’s contribution to the larger Mediterranean artistic and cultural melting pot in the early modern period.

This conference was made possible thanks to a generous grant from the Getty Foundation’s Connecting Art Histories initiative.

Images:
Diogo Homem. Ancient map of the Black Sea, circa 1559
Anon. Port of Ancona, 16th c. Dubrovnik Maritime Museum, Dubrovnik, Croatia
Thursday, December 2

10:45 Coffee

11:00 ALINA PAYNE
(I Tatti / Harvard University)
From Riverbed to Seashore: An Introduction

PART 1. THE ADRIATIC

11:30 MIRKO SARDELIĆ
(Croatian Academy of Sciences / The University of Western Australia)
Renaissance Ships in the Mediterranean as Mobile Cross-Cultural Systems

12:00 ANA ŠVERKO
(Institute of Art History - Cvito Fisković Center in Split)
Peripheral or Central? The Fortification Architecture of the Sanmichels in Dalmatia

12:30 DARKA BILIĆ
(Institute of Art History - Cvito Fisković Center in Split)
Daniel Rodriga’s Lazaretto in Split and Ottoman Caravanserais in Bosnia: The Trans-Cultural Exchange of a Shared Architectonic Model

14:30 JOSIP BELAMARIĆ
(Institute of Art History - Cvito Fisković Center in Split)
The Villa in Renaissance Dubrovnik: “where art has tamed wild nature”

15:00 DANIEL PREMERL
(Institute of Art History, Zagreb)
Visualizing Illyrianism in Urban VIII’s Rome

PART 2. THE BLACK SEA:
FROM THE DARDANELLES TO THE SEA OF AZOV

15:30 TATIANA SIZONENKO (CSUSM)
Romes Outside of Italy: Alevisio Novy and the Circulation of Renaissance Architecture in the Crimea and Muscovy

16:00 CEMAL KAFADAR (Harvard University)
“Vampire trouble is more serious than the mighty plague.”
A Comparative Look at the History of Evil and Mischief, Inspired by Evliya Celebi (1611-1684?)

17:00 GÜLRU NECİPOĞLU (Harvard University)
The Mangalia Mosque in the Waqf Empire of an Ottoman Power-Couple: Princess İsmihan Sultan and Sokollu Mehmed Pasha

17:30 IOLI KALAVREZOU (Harvard University)
The Reliquary of St. Niphon: Relations Between Wallachia, Constantinople and Mt. Athos

Friday, December 3

10:15 VLADIMIR SIMIĆ (University of Belgrade)
Between Venice and the Danube: Hieromonk Makarije and His Cyrillic Incunabula at the Turn of the Sixteenth Century

10:45 NICOLE KANÇAL-FERRARI
(Marmara University, Istanbul)
Transcultural Ornamentation and Heraldic Symbols in Early Modern Crimea and the Northern Black Sea. (XIIIth – XVIth centuries)

11:15 Coffee

11:30 ANNA-MÁRIA NYÁRÁDI
(National Széchenyi Library, Budapest)
Reflections on the Patronage of the Cantacuzino family

15:00 ALEXANDER OSIPIAN
(Freie Universität Berlin)
Between Fashion and Politics: Ottoman and Persian Luxury and the Making of Sarmatian Culture in Early Modern Poland-Lithuania

15:30 MICHAL WARDZYŃSKI
(University of Warsaw, Institute of Art History)
Ex marmore transmarino. Commissions for Italian Marble for the Polish Court in the 17th Century

16:00 DANIELA CALCIU
(Ion Mincu University of Architecture and Urban Planning, Bucharest)
Sociability Seeps Through the Lower Danube: The Introduction of Coffee to Moldavia and Wallachia in the Seventeenth Century

16:30 Tea and final discussion