

NORTHERN BYZANTINE ICONS

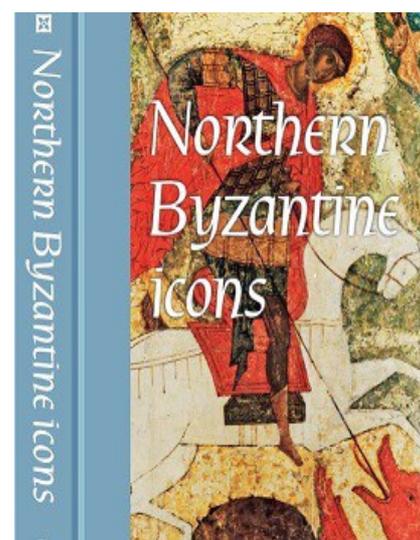
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Order form on website: <http://northernbyzantineicon.wordpress.com>
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The theme of the book **Northern Byzantine Icons**, the fifth to be published by the committee, is icons and their influence in the north, in Russia, Finland, Sweden and Alaska. The papers contained in it deal with the history of holy men and women who lived and worked in the north.

The idea is to throw new light on icons as an art form and a part of the cultural heritage that has come to us from the east, thus opening up a new and frequently overlooked perspective on our own very largely westernized culture. Icons have been described as windows on Heaven, and it is very much a matter of personal attitude as to whether we look on them as instruments of prayer, works of art or museum objects.

Contents of the book

- * Teuvo Laitila: Divine wonders and worldly saintliness
- * Matti Haltia: Saint Herman of Alaska
- * Elina Kahla: The new female saints of Russia
- * Aune Jääskinen: From viking princess to a Princess of All Russia
- * Maritta Pitkanen: Olof Aschberg and his icon collection in Stockholm
- * Merja Merras: Icon painting in Finland today
- * Katariina Husso: Icon collections in Finnish museums
- * Pirkko Vekeli: The matriarch of the Committee for Byzantine Studies

All the authors represented here are members of the Committee for Byzantine Studies (founded in August 1991) and experts in their own fields of research, but they have attempted to write in clear, everyday language in order to appeal to a less specialized readership, even though the facts and ideas they present are based on sound academic study.

The volume also contains a short biography of the founder of the Committee for Byzantine Studies and its long-standing chairman, Professor Aune Jääskinen, whose life's work, in which she continues to be as active as ever, has been the cornerstone of Finnish iconography and icon research.

The volume will also contribute something essentially new to the international exchange of ideas in Byzantine studies, as it will be published simultaneously in Finnish and English.