



Ca' Foscari  
University  
of Venice

Department of Asian  
and North African Studies



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# Historiolae

## Traditions of Narrative Charms in Comparison

19-20 June 2025

Aula Bonaventura Ruperti, San Sebastiano

19 June 2025

9.30–10.00 **Welcome and Opening  
Remarks**

**SESSION 1: Narrative Charms in  
the Byzantine and Related Magical  
Traditions**

Chair: **Michele Scarlassara**

10.00–10.45 **Michael W. Zellmann-  
Rohrer** (Freie Universität Berlin /  
Macquarie University), *Some Lesser-  
known Narratives in Byzantine Magical  
Texts and Their Tradition*

10.45–11.15 Coffee break

11.15–12.00 **Anna Cherkashina** (Tel-  
Aviv University), *Narratives of Power:  
Syriac Encounter Charms and the St.  
Sisinnius' Legend*

12.00–12.45 **Emanuela Timotin**  
(Institute of Linguistics of the Romanian  
Academy – Bucharest), *Narrative  
Charms in Romanian Manuscripts (17<sup>th</sup>-  
19<sup>th</sup> Centuries)*

13.00 Lunch

15.10–17.00 **Visit and hands-on session**  
at the San Lazzaro Monastery and  
Library of the Armenian Mekhitarist  
Order

19.00 Dinner

20 June 2025

**SESSION 2: Narrative Charms,  
Iconography and Devotional Piety in  
the Armenian Amulet Rolls**

Chair: **Jospeh E. Sanzo**

9.15–10.00 **Paolo Lucca** (Ca' Foscari  
University of Venice), *Bible-related  
Narrative Charms in the Armenian  
Amulet Rolls*

10.00–10.45 **Davit Ghazaryan**  
(Matenadaran – Mesrop Mashtots  
Institute of Ancient Manuscripts –  
Erevan), *The Relationship between  
Image and Text in the Armenian Amulet  
Rolls*

10.45–11.15 Coffee break

11.15–12.00 **Jesse S. Arlen** (Fordham  
University / Zohrab Information  
Center), *The Use of Liturgical and  
Traditional Prayers in the Armenian  
Amulet Rolls*

12.00–12.45 **Konrad Siekierski**  
(Pázmány Péter Catholic University –  
Budapest / Freie Universität Berlin),  
*Amulet Rolls as Home Saints: A New  
Role of an Old Medium in Vernacular  
Armenian Christianity*

13.00 Lunch

17.00–17.45 **Book announcements**  
**Davit Ghazaryan** (Matenadaran –  
Mesrop Mashtots Institute of Ancient  
Manuscripts – Erevan) & **Paolo Lucca**  
(Ca' Foscari University of Venice)  
introduce their soon-to-be-published  
monographs—Ghazaryan's Catalogue  
of the Armenian amulet rolls at the  
Matenadaran and Lucca's commented  
edition of a selected corpus of Armenian  
narrative charms.

17.45–18.15 **Conclusion**

19.00 Dinner

Image: Ms. V, Kurd. 7 – Library of the  
Armenian Mekhitarist Order (San Lazzaro,  
Venice)

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Project webpage: <https://pric.unive.it/projects/ejcm/home>