

## Dr. Marianna Mazzola

Date and place of birth: 20 October 1988, Palermo, Italy

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### RESEARCH INTERESTS

Cultural and social history of the Medieval Middle East (7<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> c.), with a focus on Syriac Christianity and its relations with Byzantium and Islam; Syriac Historiography; Codicology, including excerpt collections in transcultural comparison.

### EDUCATION

- 2013-2017, PhD in History, Ghent University-EPHE, Paris (passed with no corrections)  
Dissertation *Bar 'Ebroyo's Ecclesiastical History: Writing Church History in the 13<sup>th</sup> century Middle East*. Supervisors: Prof. M. Debié (EPHE, Paris), Prof. P. Van Nuffelen (Ghent University), Dr. M. Conterno (Ghent University)
- 2011-2013, M.A. in Oriental Studies, Pisa University, 110/110 cum laude (summa cum laude)
- 2007-2011, B.A. in Oriental Studies, Pisa University, 110/110 cum laude (summa cum laude)
- 2002-2007, High School Diploma, Liceo Scientifico G. Galilei, Palermo, 100/100

Other Training: Additional courses taken in Greek, Syriac, Eastern Christianity, Greek and Oriental codicology in Bologna (Alma Mater Studiorum) and Paris (EPHE, ICP, IRHT)

### WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2021-2022, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Center for the Study of Christianity, Postdoctoral Fellow
- 2018-2021, Ghent University, Postdoctoral researcher in the FWO Project *Dionysius of Tell-Mahre, Early Syriac historiography and its Byzantine and Arab context (582-842)*
- 2013-2017, Ghent University, Doctoral researcher in the ERC Project *Memory of Empire: The Post- imperial Historiography of Late Antiquity*

### EXTERNALLY FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS

- *'This Story may provide Proof'. History and Authority in Syriac Excerpt Collections and beyond.* with Peter Van Nuffelen and Andy Hilken (BOF, 1 PhD Student, 200.000 €)

### GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2021, Hebrew University Jerusalem, Center for the Study of Christianity, Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (1 year)
- 2021, FWO (Research Foundation of Flanders) Senior Postdoctoral Fellowship (3 years, temporarily suspended)
- 2019, Stipendium Academiae Belgicae for research in Rome (BAV, PIO) (2 months)
- 2016, FWO Mobility Grant, for research and study in Paris (EPHE, ICP, IRHT) (2 months)

- 2015, Ugent CWO Mobility Grant for research and study in Paris (EPHE, ICP, IRHT) (2 months)

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member of *Société d'études syriaques*
- Member of *Société belge d'études byzantines*
- Member of *OIKOS-Netherlands Research School in Classical Studies [Late Antique & Byzantine Studies Group]*
- Member of *Society of Biblical Literature*

### ORGANIZATION OF WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

- *Historiographical excerpt collections in Greek, Syriac, Ethiopian and Coptic-Arabic traditions*, 24<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Byzantine Studies (Venice-Padua, 22-27/08/2022), with A. Hilkens, G. Nicosia, P. Van Nuffelen.
- *Historiography and Space in Late Antiquity* (Ghent, 15-17/01/2015), with P. Van Nuffelen.

### INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

- Cooperation partner, *Critical edition & annotated translation of Bar Ebroyo's Syriac Universal Chronicle with its continuations* (DFG), Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main (PI Prof. Dr. D. Weltecke)
- Coordinator of collaboration between the projects '*This Story may provide Proof*'. *History and Authority in Syriac Excerpt Collections and beyond* (BOF, Ghent University, PI Prof. Dr. P. Van Nuffelen) and *FLOS Florilegia Syriaca. The Intercultural Dissemination of Greek Christian Thought in Syriac and Arabic in the First Millennium CE* (ERC, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, PI Prof. Dr. E. Fiori)

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2019-2020, Ghent University, Lecturer in charge *Capita Selecta Ancient History* [Eastern Christianity]
- 2018-2019, Ghent University, Co-lecturer *Byzantine History* [Middle Byzantine History]
- Invited lectures on Bar 'Ebroyo's *Chronicle* (2016, *Christianismes orientaux* [Prof. Dr. M. Debié], EPHE- Paris; 2019, *Lingua e Letteratura siriaca* [Prof. Dr. P.G. Borbone], Pisa University)

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Monographs.....

- *From High-Priest to Patriarch: History and Authority in the Ecclesiastical History of Bar 'Ebroyo* (Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium, 688; Subsidia, 141), Peeters, Leuven, 2020.
- *Bar 'Ebroyo, Ecclesiastical History: critical edition and translation* (Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium, 692; Scriptorum Syri, 267), Peeters, Leuven, 2021.

#### Edited volumes.....

- and M. Conterno, *Intercultural Exchange in Late Antique Historiography* (Bibliothèque de

Byzantion, 23; *Orientalia Christiana Lovanensia*, 288), Peeters, Leuven, 2020.

#### Articles and book chapters.....

- 'Finding common ground: Syriac Orthodox monastic culture in the interconfessional context of Byzantine Melitene (10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> c.), in D. Oltean (ed.) *Foreign Monks in Byzantium: Migration Trends and Integration Policies in Religious Context* (Bibliothèque de Byzantion, *Orientalia Lovanensia Analecta*) forthcoming.
- 'Grigorios Abu al-Farağ Bar 'Ebroyo', in A. Mallet (ed) *Franks and Crusades in Medieval Eastern Christian Historiography* (Outremer. Studies in the Crusades and the Latin East, 10), Brepols, Turnhout, 2021, pp. 257-280.
- 'Centralism and Local Tradition: A Reappraisal of the Sources on the Metropolis of Tagrit and Mor Matay', *Le Muséon*, 132.3-4, 2019, pp. 399-413.
- 'The Textual Tradition of Bar 'Ebroyo's Chronicle: A Preliminary Study', *Le Muséon*, 131.1-2, 2018, pp. 73-100.
- 'A 'Woven-Texture' Narration: On the Compilation Method of the Syriac Renaissance Chronicles', *Sacris Erudiri: Journal of Late Antique and Medieval Christianity* 56, 2017, pp. 445-463.
- 'Alcuni poemi di Barhebraeus nella redazione del ms. Firenze, Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana, Orientale 298', *Egitto e Vicino Oriente* 36, 2013, pp. 73-95.

#### Entries in encyclopaedia, contribution to authored volumes.....

- 'Dionysius of Tel-Mahre', in Carlson, T. (ed) *Christian-Muslim Relations, Primary Sources 600-1500*, Bloomsbury, London-Oxford, 2021.
- Contribution to Van Nuffelen, P. – Van Hoof, L. (eds), *Clavis Historicorum Antiquitatis Posterioris*, Brepols, Turnhout, 2020 [author of ca. 80 entries].
- Contribution to P. Van Nuffelen, P. – L. Van Hoof (eds), *The Fragmentary Greek Chronicles after Eusebius: Edition, Translation, and Commentary*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2021 [Andreas, Annianus, Diodorus, Metrodorus, Anonymous Book of Consuls: Syriac and Arabic Fragments].

#### In preparation.....

- and A. Hilkens – P. Van Nuffelen, *Dionysius of Tel-Mahre, Early Syriac Historiography, and its Byzantine and Arab Context (582-842)*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge (proposal favourably reviewed)
- and P. Van Nuffelen, 'Daniel of Tur Abdin' s Ecclesiastical History (8<sup>th</sup> c.): Edition and Commentary'
- and A. Hilkens – G. Nicosia, 'Identity formation and historical narratives in Syriac excerpts collections (7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> c.)' (provisional title)
- 'Bible, Masorah and Liturgy: monasteries and cross-cultural interactions in Byzantine Syria (10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> c.)' (provisional title)

#### PRESENTATIONS

- 'Cross-cultural interactions in reconquered Syria (10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> c.): the case of Melitene region', *Text and Transmission Joint Research Seminar*, 10/06/2021. (invited)
- 'The monastic revival in Northern Syria and Anatolia during the Byzantine Reconquista: Some perspectives from the Syriac Renaissance chroniclers', *Foreign Monks in Byzantium:*

*Migration Trends and Integration Policies in Religious Context*, Leuven, KUL, 15/05/2020. (invited).

- ‘‘This Story May Provide Proof’. History and authority in Syriac Excerpt Collections’. *Florilegia Syriaca. Mapping a Knowledge-Organizing Practice in the Syriac World* (Ca’ Foscari University, Venice 30/01-1/02/2020) (invited).
- ‘Bipartite Transmission and Continuations in the Textual Tradition of Bar ‘Ebroyo’s Ecclesiastical History’. *Textual Criticism and Scholarly Editing of Syriac Sources: Ongoing Projects, Current Issues and Methods in Practice* (Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt 6-9/07/2018) (invited).
- ‘Bar ‘Ebroyo’s Ecclesiastical History: a study on textual tradition and literary aspects’. *12<sup>th</sup> Symposium Syriacum* (Istituto Pontificio Orientale, Rome 19-21/08/2016).
- ‘Bar ‘Ebroyo’s Ecclesiastical History: an ongoing research on literary aspects and sources’. *6<sup>th</sup> Dorushe Graduate Conference in Syriac Studies* (Brown University, Providence 8-9/05/2016).
- ‘Syriac Renaissance Chronicles: A new compilation trend?’. *Compilations and Excerpt Collections of Historiographical Material in Late Antiquity and the early Middle Ages* (Ghent University, Ghent 24-25/03/2016).

**In preparation.....**

- ‘Religious resistance, cultural assimilation: Syriac Orthodox migration and intercultural contacts in Byzantine Syria (10<sup>th</sup> c. -11<sup>th</sup> c.)’. *Migrazioni, incontri e trasformazioni nel Mediterraneo antico* (La Sapienza, Roma 2-3/12/2021) (invited).
- Tba. *Bishops – Leaders and Ministers, Judges and Diplomats, Scholars and Saints. Variations on a Global Institution in the Middle Ages* (Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt 24-5/02/2022) (invited).
- ‘The reception of Eusebius’ Ecclesiastical History in 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> c. Syriac florilegia.’. Panel ‘Historiographical excerpt collections in Greek, Syriac, Ethiopian and Coptic-Arabic traditions’, *24<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Byzantine Studies* (Venice-Padua, 22-27/08/2022) (invited)

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