

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### Conference

#### *Camille Enlart et Albert Gabriel, art historians and archaeologists of Frankish Greece*

Rhodes, Foundation Marc de Montalembert, 23-24 October 2025

organised by the *École française d'Athènes* and the *GRHis* (UR 3831)



Camille Enlart (1862-1927) and Albert Gabriel (1883-1972) are among the scholars who have had a lasting impact on the history of art and the archaeology of Latin Greece. Former member of the *École française de Rome*, Camille Enlart was the first to study the monuments of Cyprus in the Frankish and Venetian periods as scientific material. Albert Gabriel offered the first complete analysis of the City of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem on Rhodes. These two pioneers, whose work also focused on the medieval monuments of Northern France and Anatolia, contributed to build the scientific field of Latin Greece.

Trained at the *École des beaux-Arts*, Camille Enlart and Albert Gabriel travelled extensively, bringing with them cameras and sketchbooks. Their most significant contribution lays in the extremely rich documentation of monuments, most of which had undergone restoration or reconstruction works, sometimes very extensive, when they had not been ruined or had entirely disappeared. Used to prepare lectures and conferences, these photographs and surveys also illustrate the publications of the two scholars and provide an indisputable foundation for their thesis. Documenting the original shape of medieval monuments, they constitute precious and indispensable archival material, some of which has not yet been published or studied.

Art historians Camille Enlart and Albert Gabriel were also archaeologists. The first one carried out excavations in some churches of Famagusta in 1901, unearthing material that shed light on the history of these Cypriot monuments. Aged just twenty-five, the second became the architect for the *École française d'Athènes* for excavations undertaken at Delos from 1908 to 1911. He then went on to work in Egypt and Turkey. The impact of archaeology on the methodology developed by the two scholars has yet to be assessed.

Conducting fieldwork, Camille Enlart and Albert Gabriel were also teachers whose reputation spread beyond France. The first was called upon by academies, societies and European and American universities. As for the second, he was lecturer at the *Faculté des Lettres* in Caen in 1923, then, two years later, at the University of Strasbourg, before teaching at the Faculty of Letters in Istanbul a year later. The influence of the teachings of Camille Enlart and Albert Gabriel on the generations of students they trained has yet to be fully appreciated.

These scholars were also men rooted in contemporary reality. While Camille Enlart's colonialist and Franco-centric discourse has been recognised and placed in the context of the time, Albert Gabriel's ideological thinking remains obscure. Yet the first Director of the *Institut Français*

*d'archéologie* (nowadays the IFEA), the man whom the Turkish ambassador to Paris nicknamed 'the most Turkish of the French', is an ideal figure to deepen our knowledge of diplomatic relations between France and the Ottoman Empire just before its fall, on the one hand, and, on the other, to appreciate the way in which an art historian and archaeologist perceived the Italian occupation of the Dodecanese (1912-1943).

The aim of this conference is to place the works of Camille Enlart and Albert Gabriel in the context in which they were written, to highlight their contribution to the field of Latin Greece and to review the progress made in research more than a century after their publication; a number of themes can be suggested:

- the place of the work of Camille Enlart and Albert Gabriel in the historiography of Latin Greece;
- Albert Gabriel's ideology in the context of relations between France and the Ottoman Empire, and the Italian occupation of the Dodecanese;
- their travels in Greece and Cyprus and their approach to the medieval remains;
- their relations with diplomats, archaeologists and historians of the Latin East;
- the material they collected during their fieldwork research (photographs, surveys, drawings), its enhancement as part of cultural heritage and its use in scholarship;
- the reception of their scholarly work in France, Greece and Cyprus;
- the impact of their teaching on the generations of art historians and archaeologists they trained;
- their relationship with Byzantine art and, more broadly, with the cultures of the Eastern Mediterranean;
- their relationship with archaeology and the influence of this discipline on their methodologies and interpretations of the monuments.

This list is not exhaustive and does not cover all possible research themes pertaining to Camille Enlart and Albert Gabriel and their scholarly work. All proposals for papers will be considered for inclusion in the conference's programme.

The papers, to be delivered in French, Greek, English, or Italian, will be pre-published on the digital platform (<https://frankika.efa.gr/fr/travaux>) before final publication in paper form by the *Éditions de l'École française d'Athènes*.

This conference is part of the research program *Écrire l'histoire de la Grèce franque* (Writing the history of Frankish Greece), run by the *École française d'Athènes* and the *GRHis* (UR 3831): <https://www.efa.gr/grece-franque/>. It is the fourth meeting after those previously organised on Charles Du Cange (Mont Saint-Aignan, 2022), Jean-Alexandre Buchon (Athens, 2023) and Louis de Mas Latrie (Nicosia, 2024).

Deadline for submissions: please send paper title and short abstract (100-150 words) by **2 January 2025**.

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