

MATTEO COMPARETI

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ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

February 18th 2022 “abilitazione scientifica nazionale” to be professor (professore di seconda fascia) 10/N3

May 2005 **PhD** University of Naples “L’Orientale”. Title of my thesis: “Gli apporti indiani nell’arte della Sogdiana e il ramo marittimo della «Via della Seta»”. President: Prof. Adriano Rossi. Supervisors: Prof. Maria Vittoria Fontana, Prof. Bruno Genito.

February 1999 **Degree** (MA) in Oriental Languages and Literatures, University of Venice “Ca’ Foscari” (*cum laude*). Title of my thesis: “Un motivo ornamentale iranico nei tessuti del Xinjiang, Qinghai e Gansu”. Supervisors: Prof. Gianroberto Scarcia, Dr. Amina Malagò, Prof. Gian Giuseppe Filippi

HONORS AND AWARDS

2017 “Prix Lantier 2017”, Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, Paris

2001 “Alberto Borromeo”, Prize for my degree dissertation at University of Venice

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Sep 2022-present Professor at School of History, Capital Normal University (Beijing)

June 2021-present affiliated to Ca’ Foscari University of Venice as “cultore della materia”

Feb 09-Mar 15 2021 Visiting Scholar, Ca’ Foscari University of Venice

2018-2021 Professor at School of History and Civilization, Shaanxi Normal University (Xi’an)

2016-2017 International Expert of School of Art, Renmin University of China (Beijing)

2015-2016 Adjunct Assistant Professor “Guitty Azarpay Distinguished Professor in the History of the Arts of Iran and Central Asia”, Near East Department (University of California Berkeley)

2013-2014 Visiting Research Scholar, Institute for the Study of the Ancient World ISAW (New York University)

ORGANIZED CONFERENCES

December 13th 2024 – Mini-Symposium: “*Cultural Interactions between West Asia, Central Asia, and China*” with Li Sifei, Si Jialu, Wang Shujing, Zhang Fan, Capital Normal University, Beijing (China).

Dec 13th-14th 2018 – International Conference “*Sogdians and Their Funerary Monuments in Sixth-Seventh Century China: New Thoughts and Reflections*”, Venice (Italy).

May 3rd 2016 – Workshop: “*Fabulous Creatures and Spirits in Ancient Iran*”, Berkeley (USA).

December 4th 2015 – Mini-Symposium: “*Textile Iconography and Kingship in Persia and Central Asia*” with Matthew Canepa and Mariachiara Gasparini, Berkeley (USA).

May 4th 2010 – Round table on Sasanian studies in honour of Prof. Touraj Daryaee, Venice (Italy).

March 14th 2005 – International Conference: “*Nawruz in Venice. New Perspectives on the Pre-Islamic Paintings at Afrasyab (Samarkand)*”, Venice (Italy).

LANGUAGES

Italian mother tongue;

English fluent reading, writing and speaking;

Spanish fluent reading, writing and speaking;

French fluent reading, writing and speaking;

Russian reading knowledge, basic speaking;

Chinese basic reading and speaking;

EXCAVATION EXPERIENCE

Fall 2002 **Uch Kulakh** (Bukhara), Uzbekistan: Italian-Uzbek Archaeological Mission; Kurgan Vardanzī (region of Bukhara), Uzbekistan. Director: Prof. C. Silvi Antonini (Rome University “La Sapienza”)

Fall 2006 **Kafir Kal’a** (Samarkand), Uzbekistan: Italian-Uzbek Archaeological Mission. Director: Prof. M. Tosi (Bologna University “Alma Mater”)

MEMBER OF EDITORIAL BOARDS

Ferdows, Collana di Studi Iranici e Islamici, «Alma Mater Studiorum», Bologna (Italy)

Journal of the Silk Road Studies, Shaanxi Normal University, Xi’an (China)

Studia Persica, University of Bologna «Alma Mater Studiorum» (Italy) & University of California Irvine (USA)

Persica Antiqua. The International Journal of Persian Studies, Tissaphernes Archaeological Research Group, Tehran (Iran)

Hunara. Journal of Ancient Iranian Arts and History (co-editor-in-chief), Tehran (Iran)

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS and MONOGRAPHS

- 1) *I popoli iranici e la navigazione nell'Oceano Indiano*, Venezia, 2005 (in Italian).
- 2) Literary Evidence for the Identification of Some Common Scenes in Han Funerary Art, ("*Sino-Platonic Papers*", 160; Philadelphia: Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Pennsylvania, September 2005).
- 3) With Simone Cristoforetti, *The Chinese Scene at Afrāsyāb and the Iranian Calendar*, Venice, 2007.
- 4) Traces of Buddhist Art in Sogdiana, ("*Sino-Platonic Papers*", 181; Philadelphia: Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, University of Pennsylvania, August 2008).
- 5) *Samarqanda Centro del Mondo. Proposte di lettura del ciclo pittorico di Afrāsyāb*, Milano-Udine, 2009 (in Italian. Translated into English as: *Samarkand the Center of the World. Proposals for the Identification of the Afrāsyāb Paintings*, Mazda Publishers, Santa Ana-CA, 2016).
- 6) With Touraj Daryaee and Khodadad Rezakhani, *Iranians on the Silk Road. Merchants, Kingdoms and Religions*, Beverly Hills, 2010.
- 7) *Dawn of Samarkand. Artistic Interaction between Sogdiana, China, Persia, India and Byzantium*, Guilin, 2016 (in Chinese).
- 8) *La raffigurazione di divinità pre-cristiane nella produzione fittile dell'Armenia ellenistica*, Venezia, 2017 (in Italian).
- 9) *Dinastie di Persia e arte figurativa. Bibliografia ragionata per un millennio e mezzo di iconografie iraniche*, Bologna, 2019 (in Italian).
- 10) *The Elusive Persian Phoenix. Simurgh and Pseudo-Simurgh in Iranian Art*, Bologna, 2021.
- 11) *From Sasanian Persia to the Tarim Basin: Pre-Islamic Iranian Art and Culture along the Silk Road*, Roma, 2021.
- 12) *Studies on Zoroastrian Iconographies from Pre-Islamic Persia and Central Asia*, Roma, 2024.

EDITED PUBLICATIONS

- 1) With Gianroberto Scarcia, *Il falcone di Bistam. Intorno all'iranica Fenice/Samand: un progetto di sintesi per il volo del Pegaso iranico tra Ponto, Alessandretta e Insulindia*, Venezia, 2003.
- 2) With R. Favaro and S. Cristoforetti, *L'Onagro Maestro. Miscellanea di fuochi accesi per Gianroberto Scarcia in occasione del suo LXX sadè*, Venezia, 2004.

- 3) With É. de La Vaissière, *Royal Nawrūz in Samarkand. Acts of the Conference Held in Venice on the Pre-Islamic Afrāsyāb Painting*, Rome-Pisa, 2006.
- 4) With P. Raffetta and G. Scarcia, *Ērān ud Anērān. Studies Presented to Boris Il'ič Maršak on the Occasion of His 70th Birthday*, Venezia, 2006.
- 5) With R. Favaro, *Le spigolature dell'Onagro. Miscellanea composta per Gianroberto Scarcia in occasione dei suoi ottant'anni*, Venezia, 2013.
- 6) *Fabulous Creatures and Spirits in Ancient Iranian Culture. Proceedings of a Workshop Held on May 3rd 2016 at the Near East Department*, University of California Berkeley, Bologna, 2018.
- 7) With T. Daryaei, *Studi sulla Persia sasanide e suoi rapporti con le civiltà attigue*, Bologna, 2020.
- 8) With M. Pistoso, *La luce scarlatta del tempo. Atti del simposio in commemorazione di Gianroberto Scarcia tenuto presso il Pontificio Istituto Orientale di Roma, 11 gennaio 2019*, Bologna, 2023.

ARTICLES and REVIEWS

- 1) La décoration des vêtements du roi Gagik Arcruni à Alt'amar, *Journal of the Islamic Environmental Design Research Centre. Essays in Memory of Paolo Cuneo*, 1–2, 1997/98/99: 88-95 (in French).
- 2) Iranian Divinities in the Decoration of Some Dulan and Astana Silks, *Annali di Ca' Foscari*, XXXIX, 3, 2000: 331-368.
- 3) Sogdiana. Iranian Culture in Central Asia, in: <http://www.iranian.com/History/2001/July/Sogdiana/index.html> or <http://www.caissoas.com/CAIS/Geography/soghdiana.htm>, 2001.
- 4) Introduction to the History of Sogdiana, in: *The Turks. Vol. 1. Early Ages*, ed. H. C. Güzel, C. C. Oğuz, O. Karatay, Ankara, 2002: 373–381 (the same article was published in Turkish: *Türkler*, vol. 2, ed. H. C. Güzel, K. Çiçek, S. Koca, Ankara, 2002: 157-169).
- 5) İtalya'daki Avrasya Araştırmaları, Türkoloji ve türk tarihi araştırmaları Özel sayısı, I. Türkoloji/dil/edebiyat/kültür. *Yeni Türkiye*, 43, 2002: 60-61 (in Turkish).
- 6) Note sull'iconografia del pegaso e del cavallo bardato nell'arte iranica, in: *Il falcone di Bistam. Intorno all'iranica Fenice/Samand: un progetto di sintesi per il volo del Pegaso iranico tra Ponto, Alessandretta e Insulindia*, a cura di M. Compareti e G. Scarcia, Venezia, 2003: 27-37 (in Italian).
- 7) Presenza sasanide in Africa, in: *Il falcone di Bistam. Intorno all'iranica Fenice/Samand: un progetto di sintesi per il volo del Pegaso iranico tra Ponto, Alessandretta e Insulindia*, a cura di M. Compareti e G. Scarcia, Venezia, 2003: 39-48 (in Italian. Published also in Spanish and English online as: "The Sasanians in Africa": <http://www.transoxiana.com.ar/0104/sasanians.html>).
- 8) The Last Sasanians in China, *Eurasian Studies*, II, 2, 2003: 197-213.
- 9) Note sul toponimo Vardāna–Vardānzī, *Rivista degli Studi Orientali*, LXXVI, 1–4, 2003: 39-47 (in Italian).

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- 10) Un *mingqi* tang della collezione Meidaozhai–Agnelli raffigurante un sacerdote iranico, in: *L'onagro Maestro. Miscellanea di fuochi accesi per Gianroberto Scarcia in occasione del suo LXX sadè*, a cura di R. Favaro, S. Cristoforetti, M. Compareti, Venezia, 2004: 373-392 (in Italian).
- 11) La Persia e il Mediterraneo nell'età achemenide, in: *Storia del Mediterraneo nell'Antichità*, ed. M. Guidetti, Milano, 2004: 66-78 (in Italian).
- 12) La Persia e il Mediterraneo da Alessandro Magno alla comparsa dei Parti, in: *Storia del Mediterraneo nell'Antichità*, ed. M. Guidetti, Milano, 2004: 202-215 (in Italian).
- 13) Evidence of Mutual Exchange between Byzantine e Sogdian Art, in: *La Persia e Bisanzio*, Roma, 2004: 865-922.
- 14) I monumenti funerari appartenuti a potenti stranieri di origine iranica recentemente scoperti in Cina: <http://www.cinaoggi.it/storia/monumenti-funerari-iraniani-a.htm>, 2004 (in Italian).
- 15) With S. Cristoforetti, Una tipica festa cinese tra le pitture del VII secolo d.C. di Afrasyab (Samarcanda)?: <http://www.cinaoggi.it/storia/tipica-festa-cinese.htm>, 2004 (in Italian).
- 16) The Sasanian and the Sogdian “Pearl Roundel” Design: Remarks on an Iranian Decorative Pattern, *The Study of Art History*, 6, 2004: 259-272.
- 17) A Possible Etymology for the Toponym Fadi/Vardana in Chinese Sources, in: *Arheologija i istorija Central'noj Azii. K 70 letiju so dnja roždenija akademika Akademii nauk Respubliki Uzbekistan Jurija Fedoroviča Buryakova*, Samarkand, 2004: 179-182.
- 18) Review of the International Conference: The Bukhara Oasis. Antiquity and Middle Ages. International Conference held in the Bukhara Citadel, Kushbegi Court September 26th-27th 2003, in: *Transoxiana* <http://www.transoxiana.com.ar/0108/compareti-conferencebukhara.html> 2004.
- 19) Review of two exhibition catalogues: “Siberia. Gli uomini dei fiumi ghiacciati”, G. Arbore Popescu, A. Alekseev, J. Piotrovskij (curators), Milan: Electa, 2001: 212 pages, ISBN 88-435-7893-6; and “Oro. Il mistero dei Sarmati e degli Sciti”, J. Aruz, A. Farkas, A. Alekseev, E. Korolkova (curators), Milan: Electa, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2001: 260 pp., ISBN 88-435-7795-6, in: *Annali dell'Istituto Universitario Orientale di Napoli*, 1-4, 2004: 296-300 (in Italian).
- 20) With S. Cristoforetti, Proposal for a New Interpretation of the Northern Wall of the “Hall of the Ambassadors” at Afrasyab, in: *Central Asia from the Achaemenids to the Timurids: Archaeology, History, Ethnology, Culture. Materials of an International Scientific Conference Dedicated to the Centenary of Aleksandr Markovich Belenitsky*, ed. V. P. Nikonorov, St. Petersburg, 2005: 215-220.
- 21) A Possible Sasanian Textile Fragment in the Benaki Museum (Athens), in: *Scritti in Onore di Giovanni M. D'Erme*, eds. M. Bernardini, N. L. Tornesello, Napoli, 2005: 289-302.
- 22) Sasanian Textile Art: An Iconographic Approach, *Studies on Persianate Societies*, 3, 2005: 143-163.
- 23) Remarks on Late Sasanian Art: The Figural Capitals at Tāq-e Bostān, *Nāme-ye Irān-e Bāstān*, 5, 1-2, 2005-2006: 83-98.

- 24) A Reading of the Royal Hunt at Afrasyab Based on Chinese Sources, in: *Royal Nawrūz in Samarkand. Acts of the Conference Held in Venice on the Pre-Islamic Afrāsyāb Painting*, eds. M. Compareti and É. de La Vaissière, Rome, 2006: 173-184.
- 25) The Role of the Sogdian Colonies in the Diffusion of the Pearl Roundel Design, in: *Ērān ud Anērān. Studies Presented to B. I. Maršak on the Occasion of His 70th Birthday*, eds. M. Compareti, P. Raffetta, G. Scarcia, Venezia, 2006: 149-174; also published online: <http://www.transoxiana.com.ar/Eran/index/compareti.html>.
- 26) Textile Patterns in Sogdian Painting: the Sasanian and the Local Components, in: *Ancient and Mediaeval Culture of the Bukhara Oasis*, eds. C. Silvi Antonini, D. K. Mirzaahmedov, Samarkand-Rome, 2006: 60-68.
- 27) Iconographical Notes on Some Recent Studies on Sasanian Religious Art (with an Additional Note on an Ilkhanid Monument by Rudy Favaro), *Annali di Ca' Foscari*, XLV, 3, 2006: 163-200.
- 28) “Fadi” guodi wang kao, *Dunhuang Tulufan Yanjiu (Journal of the Dunhuang and Turfan Studies)*, 9, 2006: 295-301 (in Chinese).
- 29) Remarks on Some not Well-Known Sogdian Fragmentary Wall-Paintings, *The Study of Art History*, 8, 2006: 199-212.
- 30) Remarks on the Monstrous Flying-Creature in a Northern Dynasties-Period Funerary Couch Belonged to a Sogdian, in: *4th-6th Centuries Northern China and Asia, Shanxi Center for the Study of the Culture of Northern Dynasties Period*, ed. Zhang Qingjie, Li Shuji, Li Gang, Beijing, 2006: 166-189 (in Chinese). Reprint with a different title: Interpretation of the Persian God Beast in the Xianbei Tombs of the Sute People, *Journal of Art College of Inner Mongolia University*, 3, 2007: 52-59 (in Chinese with an English summary).
- 31) The So-Called *Senmurv* in Iranian Art: A Reconsideration of an Old Theory, in: *Loquentes linguis. Studi linguistici e orientali in onore di Fabrizio A. Pennacchietti (Linguistic and Oriental Studies in Honour of Fabrizio A. Pennacchietti)*, eds. P. G. Borbone, A. Mengozzi, M. Tosco, Wiesbaden, 2006: 185-200.
- 32) The Representation of Foreign Merchants in the *Pranidhi* Scenes at Bāzāklik, in: *Proceedings of the 5th Conference of the Societas Iranologica Europæa. Volume I. Ancient & Middle Iranian Studies*, eds. A. Panaino, A. Piras, Milano, 2006: 365-377.
- 33) A Central Asian Caravaneer *Mingqi* in an Italian Collection, in: *Turfan Studies. The Second International Conference on Turfanology*, Shanghai, 2006: 321-325.
- 34) Further Evidence for the Interpretation of the “Indian Scene” in the Pre-Islamic Paintings at Afrāsyāb (Samarkand), *The Silk Road*, 4/2, 2006-2007: 32-42; also published online: http://silkroadfoundation.org/newsletter/vol4num2/snewsletter_v4n2.pdf.
- 35) Cenni storici sulla Sogdiana. La cultura iranica in Asia Centrale tra Cina e Persia: <http://www.cinaoggi.it/storia/sogdiana/index.html>, 2007 (in Italian).
- 36) The Paintings Concerning Chinese Themes at Afrāsyāb, in: *The Chinese Scene at Afrāsyāb and the Iranian Calendar*, eds. M. Compareti and S. Cristoforetti, Venice, 2007: 9-32.

- 37) Buddhist Activity in Pre-Islamic Persia According to Literary Sources and Archaeology, *Transoxiana*, 12, 2007: http://www.transoxiana.org/12/compareti-iranian_buddhism.php
- 38) On the Meaning of the Dragon in the Paintings at Afrasyab (Ancient Samarkand), in: *Proceedings of the International Conference on Ancient Central Eurasian and Chinese Civilizations. Volume I. Eurasian Studies*, ed. V. H. Mair, 6, 2007: 66-83.
- 39) The Eight Pointed Rosette: A Possible Important Emblem in Sasanian Heraldry, *Parthica*, 9, 2007: 206-230.
- 40) Some Specimens of Central Asian Decorative Elements in Ajanta and Bagh Paintings, *The Study of Art History*, 9, 2007: 461-472 (in Chinese). (Online version in English in: *Phoenix in Domo Foscari*, 2, 2009).
- 41) Indian Elements in Sogdian Art. Specimens of Religious and Secular Themes, in: *East-West: The Dialogue of Cultures and Civilizations of Eurasia. Vol. 8. Problems of the Ancient and Medieval History and Archaeology*, ed. A. A. Burkanov, Kazan, 2007: 34-39.
- 42) Feste a Samarcanda, *Art e Dossier*, 243, aprile 2008: 9 (in Italian).
- 43) Afrāsiāb. ii. Wall Paintings, in: *Encyclopaedia Iranica. Online version*, E. Yarshater ed.: <http://www.iranica.com/newsite/> (28 July 2008).
- 44) Fragmentary Sasanian Sculptures Recently Found in Iran, in: *Scritti in onore di Biancamaria Amoretti Scarcia. Vol II*, ed. F. Bredi, L. Capezzone, Roma, 2008: 409-419.
- 45) The Painting of the "Hunter-King" at Kakrak: Royal Figure or Divine Being?, *Annali di Ca' Foscari*, XLVII, 3, 2008: 131-149 (Chinese Translation: *The Western Region Studies*, 4, 2017: 112-123).
- 46) Remarks on the Sogdian Religious Iconography in 7th Century Samarkand, in: *The Art of Central Asia and the Indian Sub-Continent in Cross-Cultural Perspective*, ed. A. Pande, New Delhi, 2009: 194-200 (formerly published online as: The Sogdian Paintings at Afrasyab (Old Samarkand) Concerning Chinese Subjects: <http://www.eurasianhistory.com/data/articles/a02/1426.html>, or <http://www.eurasianhistory.com/data/articles/a02/422.html>, 2005).
- 47) Sasanians. Textiles: An Iconographical Approach, in: *Encyclopaedia Iranica. Online version*, E. Yarshater ed.: <http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/sasanian-textiles> (15 December 2009).
- 48) Tra il Palatino e Limburgo: considerazioni su alcune stele armene di età pre-islamica, in: *Acculturazione e disadattamento. Quaderni del Dipartimento di Studi Eurasiatichi 83*, ed. D. Guizzo, Venezia, 2009: 7-27 (in Italian).
- 49) Sasanian and Sogdian Borrowings in Kashmiri and Tibetan Art, *Transoxiana*, 14, 2009 (Chinese translation published in: *Centre for Dunhuang Studies*, 13, 2010: 216-223).
- 50) China.xvi. The Last Sasanians in China, in: *Encyclopaedia Iranica. Online version*, E. Yarshater ed.: <http://www.iranicaonline.com> (20 July 2009).

- 51) The Indian Iconography of the Sogdian Divinities and the Role of Buddhism and Hinduism in Its Transmission, *Annali dell'Istituto Orientale di Napoli*, 69/1-4, 2009: 175-210 (Chinese translation published in: The Indian Iconography of the Sogdian Divinities: The Archaeological and the Textual Evidence, *Journal of Dunhuang Studies*, 4, 2008: 145-167).
- 52) "Holy Animals" of Mazdeism in Iranian Arts: Ram, Eagle and Dog, *Nāme-ye Irān-e Bāstān*, 9, 1/2, 2009/2010: 27-42.
- 53) La peinture d'Afrasiab Cycle iconographique à la gloire du roi de Samarcande, *Les Dossiers de l'Archéologie*, 341, 2010: 54-57 (in French).
- 54) Archeology and History of Art in Pre-Islamic Iran and Central Asia, in: *De Gruyter Handbook of the Middle Ages*, ed. A. Classen, Berlin, 2010: 25-38.
- 55) The Spread Wings Motif on Armenian Steles: Its Meaning and Parallels in Sasanian Art, *Iran and the Caucasus*, 14, 2, 2010: 201-232.
- 56) With Simone Cristoforetti and Gianroberto Scarcia, Testimonianze d'asia orientale a Samarcanda: ieri e oggi, in: *Alla maniera di...Convegno in memoria di Maria Teresa Lucidi*, ed. P. Fedi et al., Roma, 2010: 185-210 (in Italian).
- 57) A Short Note on a So-Called Iskandar Dhu'l-Qarnayn in a Bactrian Painting, *Parthica*, 12, 2010: 95-106.
- 58) Un sogdiano alla corte cinese: qualche osservazione sulla biografia di He Chou, in: *Il concetto di uomo nelle società del Vicino Oriente e dell'Asia Meridionale. Studi in onore di Mario Nordio*, ed. G. G. Filippi, Venezia, 2011: 227-237 (in Italian).
- 59) The State of Research on Sasanian Painting, *e-Sasanika*, 13, 2011 (printed version in: *The International Journal of Eurasian Studies*, 1, 2011: 108-152).
- 60) The Representation of Anāhitā in Sasanian Art: The Case of Taq-i Bustan Rock Reliefs and Figurative Capitals, in: *Anahita Persian Goddess and Zoroastrian Yazata. A special issue of Mithras Reader: An Academic and Religious Journal of Greek, Roman and Persian Studies*, ed. Payam Nabarz, 2011: 28-43.
- 61) The Painted Vase of Merv in the Context of Central Asian Pre-Islamic Funerary Tradition, *The Silk Road*, 9, 2011: 26-41 (Chinese translation published in: *Information & Reference*, 2012/12, 17: 172-185).
- 62) Classical Elements in Sogdian Art: Aesop's Fables Represented in the Mural Paintings at Penjikent, *Iranica Antiqua*, XLVII, 2012: 303-316.
- 63) With Simone Cristoforetti, Il fumo iranico della pipa di Perm, in: *Multa et Varia. Studi offerti a Maria Marcella Ferraccioli e Gianfranco Giraudò*, a cura di F. C. Ciure, V. Nosilia, A. Pavan, Milano, 2012: 239-250 (in Italian).
- 64) With Gianroberto Scarcia, Zone d'ombra nell'Est iranico alla vigilia dell'islamizzazione, *Parthica*, 14, 2012: 207-254 (in Italian).

- 65) Due tessuti centrasiatici cosiddetti “zandaniji” decorati con pseudo-Simurgh, in: *Le spigolature dell’Onagro. Miscellanea composta per Gianroberto Scarcia in occasione dei suoi ottant’anni*, a cura di M. Compareti, R. Favaro, Venezia, 2013: 17-37 (in Italian).
- 66) Coronation and Nawruz: A Note on the Missing King at Afrāsyāb, in: *Sogdians, Their Precursors, Contemporaries and Heirs. Based on Proceedings of Conference “Sogdians at Home and Abroad” Held in memory of Boris Il’ich Marshak (1933-2006)*, eds. P. Lurje, A. Torgoev, St.Petersburg, 2013: 174-189.
- 67) Sogdiana and the “Others”: Specimens of External Borrowings in Pre-Islamic Sogdian Art, in: *Cultural Transfers in Central Asia. Before, During and After the Silk Road*, ed. M. Espagne, Sh. Mustafaev, S. Gorshenina, C. Rapin, F. Grenet, Y. Karev, Samarkand, 2013: 74-79 (French translation: La Sogdiane et les “Autres”. Éléments d’emprunts extérieurs dans l’art sogdien pré-islamique, in: *Asie centrale. Transferts culturels le long de la Route de la soie*, ed. M. Espagne, S. Gorshenina, F. Grenet, Sh. Mustafayev, C. Rapin, Paris, 2016: 229-239).
- 68) Two Seal Impressions from Kāfer Qal’a (Samarkand) and the Representations of Iranian Divinities, *Journal of Persianate Studies*, 6, 2013: 127-142.
- 69) Teratologia fantastica in Subcaucasia. La migrazione di motivi decorative tra l’Iran e il Caucaso, in: *Al crocevia delle civiltà. Ricerche su Caucaso e Asia Centrale*, eds. A. Ferrari, D. Guizzo, Venezia, 2014: 11-50 (in Italian).
- 70) Understanding Central Asian Zoroastrianism through Sogdian Art Forms, *Fezana Journal*, 28, 2, 2014: 54.
- 71) Iranian Themes in the Afrasyab Hall of the Ambassadors Paintings, *Fezana Journal*, 28, 2, 2014: 55-60.
- 72) Some Examples of Central Asian Decorative Elements in Ajanta and Bagh Indian Paintings, *The Silk Road*, 12, 2014: 39-48.
- 73) A Recently Excavated Image of a Beribboned Ram from Kafir Kala, in: “My Life is like the Summer Rose”. *Papers in Honor of Maurizio Tosi for His 70th Birthday*, ed. in chief B. B. Lamberg-Karlovsky, B. Genito, ed. B. Cerasetti, Oxford, 2014: 153-162.
- 74) The Representation of Zoroastrian Divinities in Late Sasanian Art and Their Description according to Avestan Literature, *ARAM. Zoroastrianism in the Levant and the Amorites*, 26, 1&2, 2014: 139-174.
- 75) Armenian Pre-Christian Divinities: Some Evidence from the History of Art and Archaeological Investigation, in: *Studies on Iran and The Caucasus. In Honour of Garnik Asatrian*, ed. U. Bläsing, V. Arakelova, M. Weinreich, Leiden, 2015: 193-204.
- 76) Ancient Iranian Decorative Textiles: New Evidence from Archaeological Investigations and Private Collections, *The Silk Road*, 13, 2015: 36-44.
- 77) Review of the book: Karev, Yury: *Samarqande et le Sughd à l’époque ‘abbāsside. Histoire politique et sociale*, Paris : Association pour l’avancement des études iraniennes, 2015 (*Studia Iranica*, Cahier 55), 376 p., 15 fig. ISBN 9782910640415, in: *Orbis Terrarum*, 13, 2015: 305-307.

- 78) La raffigurazione della “gloria iranica” nell’arte persiana e la sua distinzione dall’uccello fenice/*simurgh*, *Archivi di Studi Indo-Mediterranei*, VI, 2016 (<http://kharabat.altervista.org/rsim-vi-2016-.html?cb=1486629323407>) (in Italian).
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3) September 26th-27th 2003 "The Bukhara Oasis. Antiquity and Middle Ages", Bukhara (Uzbekistan). Paper title: "Textile Patterns in Sogdian Painting: the Sasanian and the Local Components".

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5) April 2nd-5th 2004 "Second Biennial Convention on Iranian Studies. Society, History and Culture in the Persianate World", Erevan (Armenia). Paper title: "A Possible Sasanian Textile Fragment in the Benaki Museum (Athens)".

6) May 18th-21st 2004 “Secondo Convegno Nazionale degli Studenti di Archeologia. Nuove Prospettive e finalità nello studio dei contesti archeologici”, Bologna (Italy). Paper title: “L’importanza delle fonti cinesi nello studio dei siti sogdiani altomedievali: il caso di Vardana”.

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8) November 2nd-5th 2004 “Central Asia from the Achaemenids to the Timurids: Archaeology, History, Ethnology, Culture”, The State Hermitage, St.Petersburg (Russia). Paper title (with Simone Cristoforetti): “Proposal for a New Interpretation of the Northern Wall of the «Hall of the Ambassadors» at Afrasyab”.

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20) December 5th 2013 “A Research Symposium on Silk and the Visual Culture of Iranian Central Asia”, University of Minnesota (USA). Paper title: “From Sasanian Persia to Khotan: The Representation of *Khvarenah* and the *Senmurv* in Pre-Islamic Iranian Arts”.

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22) October 22nd-23rd 2014 “The Colors of the Prince. Conservation and Knowledge in Qusayr ‘Amra”, Roma (Italy). Paper title: “The So-Called “Six Kings of the World” at Qusayr ‘Amra and the Representation of the Neighboring Kingdoms in Late Antique Iranian Culture”.

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51) October 20th-21st 2022 “VI Convegno Bolognese di Iranistica (6th CoBIran)”, Bologna (Italy). Paper title: “Elementi astrologico-astronomici di origine siro-mesopotamica nella cultura religiosa del mondo iranico pre-islamico”.

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54) October 13th-15th 2023 “The Chinese and Iranian Civilizations: A Dialogue”, Lanzhou (China). Paper title: “A Controversial Iranian Decorative Motif in Dunhuang Paintings: The So-Called “Pearl Roundel” Pattern”.

55) October 14th-15th 2023 “China Westward”, Harvard (USA). Paper title: “The Artistic Production of the Sogdians in China: New Research and Identifications” (video-conference).

56) December 7th-10th 2023 “Silk Road Cultural Heritage Protection and Utilization International Industry-Academic Research Forum”, Yinchuan (Ningxia, China). Paper title: “Observations on Some Common Elements in “Sino-Sogdian” Funerary Monuments”.

57) January 17th-19th 2024 “20th Melammu Workshop. From Athens to Samarqand: Spatial Perception in Antiquity from the Eastern Mediterranean to the Taklamakan Desert”, Innsbruck (Austria). Paper title: “Spatial Perception of the Sogdians according to the Pre-Islamic Paintings at Afrasyab(Samarkand)”.

58) April 27th 2024 “Workshop on Silk Road Studies”, Shijiazhuang (China). Paper title: “The Wild Boar Head Motif between Persia and China: Religious Symbol or Hunting Trophy?”.

59) June 23rd-26th 2024 “Science and Cultures along the Silk Roads — Texts, Images, and Objects”, Hefei (China). Paper title: “Sino-Iranian Interactions along the “Silk Roads”: The Case of the *Long/*Dragon”.

60) September 18th 2024 “Academic Conference Marco Polo: Intercultural Worlds from the Mediterranean to China”, Italian Cultural Institute, Beijing (China). Paper title: “Marco Polo and Samarkand: Notes on a Problematic Itinerary along the Late “Silk Roads”.

MATTEO COMPARETI

61) September 20th-24th 2024 “Dunhuang Forum: Innovation and Development: The New Mission of Dunhuang Studies”, which also serves as a key component of the 7th Silk Road (Dunhuang) International Cultural Expo. Dunhuang (China). Paper title: “Iranian Reflections in the Personification of the Planet Mercury in Eastern Asian Arts”.

62) October 17th-18th 2024 “VII CoBiran (Convegni Bolognesi di Iranistica). Mondo iranico e culture limitrofe: aspetti letterari, filosofici, storico-religiosi e artistici”. Bologna (Italy). Paper title: “I corredi funerari di matrice iranica archeologicamente attestati lungo il tratto himalaiano della cosiddetta Via della Seta”.

63) October 25th-31st 2024 “Seminar on Civilization Exchange along the Silk Road and Research of Qiuci’s History and Cultural. The 8th Annual Conference of Studies of Qiuci. The Conference of High-Quality Growth Promotion for Qiuci’s Tourism”. Kucha (China). Paper title: “Pre-Islamic Iranian Decorative Elements in Kuche Region”.

64) November 16th 2024 “Civilization Exchange and Inheritance: Dimensions and Impacts” at CNU, Beijing (China). Paper title: “Traces of Mesopotamian Culture in China: The Case of Dunhuang and Sino-Sogdian Funerary Monuments”.

65) November 23rd-24th 2024 “History and Development of Xinjiang, China. Symposium on the Governance of Xinjiang by the Central Authorities of China”, Urumqi (China). Paper title: “Iranian Decorative Elements in pre-Islamic Xinjiang and the “Intermediary Role” of Sogdian Immigrants in Turfan, Kucha, and Khotan Regions”.

66) November 27th 2024 “International Symposium on Ancient Chinese Paintings”, Zhejiang University Museum of Art and Archaeology, Hangzhou (China). Paper title: “Specimens of Pre-Islamic Iranian Textile Patterns Represented in Buddhist Paintings from the “Western Regions” and Dunhuang”.

67) December 5th-6th 2024 “The 10th International Symposium on Sun Tzu’s Art of War”, Beijing (China). Paper title: “Pre-Tang Chinese Diplomacy in Central Asia: On the Role of *Sapao* Leaders as Observed on “Sino-Sogdian” Funerary Monuments”.

68) December 13th 2024 Mini-Symposium on “Cultural Interactions between West Asia, Central Asia, and China”, School of Art, Capital Normal University, Beijing (China). Paper title: “Persisting Mesopotamian Elements in Pre-Islamic Persian and Central Asian Figurative Arts”.

INTERNATIONAL LECTURES

1) August 19th-23rd 2005: three lectures presented at the “Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Department of History”, Beijing (China). Paper titles: “The Sogdian Paintings at Afrasyab (Old Samarkand) Concerning Chinese

Subjects”; “The Indian Iconography of the Sogdian Divinities: the Archaeological and Textual Evidence” and “The Most Recent Investigations in Sasanian Art and Archaeology”. Texts available at the webpage: <http://www.eurasianhistory.com/data/articles/b02/1439.html>

2) January 26th 2007: lecture presented at the “Ancient India and Iran Trust”, Cambridge (United Kingdom). Paper title: “The Interpretation of the Afrasyab (Ancient Samarkand) Paintings: the State of the Field”.

MATTEO COMPARETI

3) May 9th 2007: two lectures presented at the National Museum, New Delhi (India). Paper titles: “The Afrasyab Paintings in the So-Called «Hall of the Ambassadors»” and “The Indian Iconography of the Sogdian Divinities. Archaeological Discoveries at Panjikent, Varakhsha, Afrasyab”.

3) December 5th 2013: lecture presented at “A Research Symposium on Silk and the Visual Culture of Iranian Central Asia”, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis (USA). Paper title: “From Sasanian Persia to Khotan: The Representation o *Khvarenah* and the *Senmurv* in Pre-Islamic Iranian Arts”.

4) January 10th-11th 2014: two lectures presented at the University of California Irvine (USA). Paper titles: “External Ornamental Elements in Armenian Art as Reflected in the Decoration of the Church of Aght’amar (15-921 CE)” and “Some Thoughts on the Identification of the Equestrian Statue at Taq-i Bustan”.

5) March 19th 2014: lecture presented at the University of Pennsylvania (USA). Paper title: “On the Painting Programs in Sogdiana Before and After the Islamic Conquest: Sources, Narratives, Styles”.

6) May 07th 2014: lecture presented at the University of California, Berkeley (USA). Paper title: “New Discoveries in Sogdian Art and Culture from Central Asia to China”.

7) October 30th 2014: lecture presented at Georgetown University, Washington DC (USA). Paper title: “Fantastic Creatures on the Sino-Sogdian Funerary Monuments: On Teratological Syncretism along the Silk Road”.

8) February 10th-12th 2015: three lectures presented at Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary, Budapest (Hungary). Paper titles: “On the representation of Simurgh and Xwarenah in ancient Iranian art”, “The Sino-Sogdian monuments: questions of adoption and adaptation” and “The representation of Zoroastrian divinities on the column capitals at Taq-i Bustan”.

9) November 20th 2015: lecture presented at the University of Washington, Seattle (USA). Paper title: “The Myth of the *Simurgh*: Enduring Image of Royal Power in the Arts and Ideology of the Iranian World”.

10) November 27th-28th 2015: two lectures presented at Dipartimento di Storia Culture e Civiltà, University of Bologna “Alma Mater”. Paper titles: “Introduzione storico-geografica all’Asia Centrale: la Sogdiana da Alessandro Magno all’Islam”, “Immagini della mitica fenice iranica (*Simurgh*) in Persia e in Asia centrale”.

11) December 12th-17th 2015: five lectures presented at the School of Art, Renmin University of China, Beijing. Paper titles: “The Representation of the *Duanwu jie* in the Afrasyab Paintings (c. 660 CE)”, “Indian Iconographical Elements in Sogdian art”, “Byzantine Iconographical Elements in Sogdian art”, “Possible Images of *Simurgh* and Other Iranian Fantastic Creatures in 6th Century CE Sino-Sogdian Funerary Monuments”, “Recent Investigations on Sasanian Art: The Case of Taq-i Bustan Rock Reliefs”.

12) January 27th 2016: lecture presented at the Department of Iranian Studies, University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). Paper title: "Recent Investigations on Late Sasanian Art: The Site of Taq-i Bustan".

13) February 3rd 2016: lecture presented at Stanford University (USA). Paper title: "The Enigmatic Rock Reliefs at Taq-i Bustan: A Late Sasanian Site on the *Silk Road*".

MATTEO COMPARETI

14) March 23rd 2016: lecture presented at Dipartimento di Storia Culture e Civiltà, University of Bologna "Alma Mater". Paper title: "Il complesso monumentale persiano di Tāq-i Bustān. Spunti per una riflessione sull'iconografia tardo antica".

15) June 2nd 2016: lecture presented at "House of Art", Tehran (Iran). Paper title: "The Representation of *Xwarrah* and *Simurgh* in Ancient Persian Art".

16) December 5th-6th 2016: three lectures presented at the Shandong University of Arts, Jinan (China). Paper titles: "The Indian Scene in the Paintings of the Hall of the Ambassadors in Afrasyab", "New Observations about the Royal Deer Hunting Scene at Taq-i Bustan", "The Journey of the Pearl Roundel Pattern from Persia, Central Asia to Northern Dynasties".

17) December 15th 2016: lecture presented at Department of Art History, Yolanda and David Katz Faculty of the Arts, Tel Aviv University (Israel). Paper title: "Fusion or Diffusion? Artistic Interactions between Central Asia (Sogdiana), Byzantium and Beyond".

18) March 30th 2017: lecture presented at School of Chinese Classics, Renmin University of China. Paper title: "The Representation of Non-Buddhist Deities in Khotanese Paintings and Some Related Problems".

19) September 26th-27th 2017: three lectures presented at the China National Silk Museum, Hangzhou (China). Paper titles: "Taq-i Bustan and Sasanian Textile Art", "Iranian Textile Motifs in Sogdian Paintings", "The «Pearl Roundel» Pattern: A Typical Iranian Textile Decorative Pattern".

20) November 8th 2017: two lectures presented at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London (UK). Paper titles: "Central Asian Funerary Monuments: Sogdians and Zoroastrianism", "Zoroastrian and Secular Wall Paintings at Varakhsha and Afrasyab. Aesop's Fables at Penjikent".

21) November 22nd 2017: lecture presented at the School of History and Civilization, Shaanxi Normal University, Xi'an (China). Paper title: "Chinese Elements in Sogdian Paintings".

22) December 13th 2017: lecture presented at the Dipartimento di Storia Culture e Civiltà, University of Bologna "Alma Mater". Paper title: "Archeologia e cooperazione internazionale tra Iran e Asia centrale. Scoperte recenti e prospettive di scavo sulla "Via della Seta".

23) May 14th-15th 2018: five lectures presented at the School of Art, Sichuan University, Chengdu (China). Paper titles: "The Sogdian Paintings from the "Blue Hall", Penjikent", "The Larger Grotto Reliefs at Taq-i Bustan: A Late Sasanian Monument along the Silk Road", "Representations of Huns and Turks in Sino-Sogdian Monuments and Sogdian Paintings", "Non-Buddhist Deities among Newly Found Khotanese Paintings: Possible

Traces of Local Zoroastrianism?” and “Chinese Elements in Sogdian Paintings at Afrasyab, Samarkand (c. 660 CE)”.

24) June 6th 2018: lecture presented at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Israel). Paper title: “The Larger Grotto Reliefs at Taq-i Bustan: A Late Sasanian Monument along the Silk Road”.

25) October 2th-5th 2018: three lectures presented at the Departamento de História, Universidade de Brasília, Brasília (Brasil). Papers titles: “Taq-i Bustan late Sasanian rock relief complex (Kermanshah, Iran)”, “Pre-Islamic Sogdian painted program at Afrasyab (Samarkand, Uzbekistan)” and “The representation of *Senmurv* and *Xwarrah* in the painted program of Rustam at Penjikent (Tajikistan)”.

MATTEO COMPARETI

26) October 23rd-30th 2018: two lectures presented at the Dunhuang Academy (China) in the frame of the “Ajanta and Dunhuang” Buddhist Art Research Seminar. Papers titles: “The Fortune of *Ketos* and Aquatic Winged Monsters in Eurasia: Greek Mythological Creatures in Central Asia, India and China” (with Li Sifei) and “Hindu Elements in the Sogdian Temples”.

27) November 2nd 2018: lecture presented at the Arts College of Sichuan University, Chengdu (China). Paper title: “Zoroastrian Elements in Sogdian Funerary Art”.

28) December 19th 2018: lecture presented at the Charles University, Prague (Czech Republic). Paper title: “Indian Elements in Sogdian Art”.

29) March 22nd 2019: lecture presented at the School of History and Civilization, Shaanxi Normal University, Xi’an (China). Paper title: “Iranian Textile Patterns in Dunhuang Paintings”.

30) February 5th 2020: lecture presented at Dipartimento di Beni Culturali, Università di Bologna “Alma Mater” (sede di Ravenna). Paper Title: “The larger grotto reliefs at Taq-i Bustan (Western Iran): A late Sasanian monument along the Silk Road”.

31) February 6th 2020: lecture presented at Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Cambridge (UK). Paper title: “The Pre-Islamic Sogdian Painted Program at Afrasyab (Samarkand, Uzbekistan)”.

32) April 22nd 2020: video-lecture presented at the Dipartimento di Studi sull’Asia e sull’Africa Mediterranea, Università di Venezia “Ca’ Foscari”. Paper title: “Indian Elements in Sogdian Art”.

33) October 13th 2020: lecture presented at the Dipartimento di Filosofia e Beni Culturali, Università di Venezia “Ca’ Foscari”. Paper title: “*Simurgh* e pseudo-*simurgh*: origine, sviluppo e diffusione”.

34) November 10th-11th 2020: four video-lectures at the SOAS University of London. Paper titles: “Afrasyab: the Royal Sogdian Palace in Samarkand and its Paintings”, “The Golden Peaches of Samarkand and Iranian Exotica in Sui-Tang China”, “The Flight of the Simurgh: Sogdian Paintings and Persian Islamic Book Illustrations”, “From Samarqand to Kermanshah: Central Asian Textile Motifs in Sasanian Persia”.

35) February 9th 2021: video-lecture presented at the “7th Seminar on Armenian and Eastern Christian Art”, Università di Venezia “Ca’ Foscari”. Paper title: “Elementi decorativi di origine iranica nel Caucaso tardo-antico: Armenia, Iberia e Albania”.

36) May 19th 2021: video-lecture presented on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of “Iran & the Caucasus” scientific journal published by Brill, Leiden. Paper title: “On the Iconography of the Zoroastrian Rain God Tishtrya in Pre-Islamic Central Asian Arts”.

37) May 28th 2021: video-lecture presented at the Freiburg University. Paper title: “Taq-i Bustan Rock Reliefs and the Silk Road: A Controversial Late Sasanian Monument”.

38) February 14th-15th 2022: two lectures at the SOAS University of London. Paper titles: “The Masterpiece of Sogdian Palatial Art: The Blue Hall at Penjikent”, “Art of the Sogdian Palaces: Specimens of Protective Deities in Elite Buildings at Penjikent”.

MATTEO COMPARETI

39) July 25th and 27th, August 1st and 3rd 2022: four video lectures presented at the Yadegar-e Bastan Research Center, Tehran. Paper titles: “Prologue: Sasanian History, Sasanian Art and Sources”, “On Rocks and Bricks: Rock Reliefs, Architecture and Stucco”, “Fine Arts: Metalwork and Textiles”, “A Signet on the Silk Road: the Taq-i Bustan Monument”.

40) March 4th 2023: lecture presented at the History Museum of Tsinghua University, Beijing (China). Paper title: “Iranian Iconographies and Sasanian Toreutics: New Data and Recent Identification Hypotheses”.

41) September 14th-15th 2023: lecture presented at the Beijing Culture Forum 2023, Beijing (China). Paper title: “Chinese Archaeology and the Study of Sino-Sogdian Art”.

42) October 15th-22nd 2023: lecture presented at the Dunhuang Academy (China) in the frame of “From Samarkand to Dunhuang. The Silk Road Culture and Arts Research Seminar”. Paper title: “Sogdian Religious Elements in Dunhuang Buddhist Art: On the Representation of Two Deities in the Pelliot Chinois 4518.24 Document”.

43) November 9th 2023: lecture presented at Nagoya University (Japan). Paper title: “Simurgh or Farr? Research based on the literary and iconographic evidence”.

44) November 15th 2023: lecture presented at the Department of Chinese Studies, Renmin University of China. Paper title: “Proposals for the identification of enigmatic Sogdian deities in the frame of Greco-Mesopotamian astrological-astronomical elements”.

45) November 22nd 2023: lecture presented at the Country and Area Studies Academy, Beijing Foreign Studies University in the frame of “Global Governance”. Paper title: “The Funerary Art of the Sogdians in China”.

46) November 25th 2023: lecture presented at the International Symposium on the 870th Anniversary of Beijing as Capital City, Beijing. Paper title: “Conflict and Cooperation: Cultural Exchanges along the “Silk Road” during the Jin-Yuan Period (12th-13th Centuries)”.

47) November 29th 2023: lecture presented at School of History and Civilization, Shaanxi Normal University, Xi’an (China). Paper title: “The identification of Sogdian deities in the frame of Greco-Mesopotamian astrology-astronomy”.

48) May 24th 2024: lecture presented at Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing (China). Paper title: “Indian Elements in Sogdian Art”.

49) September 8th 2024: lecture presented at the Auditorium of Macau Museum of Art in the frame of the "One Belt One Road" lectures series (Macau). Paper title: "Sogdiana, its mural paintings and religious art: A forgotten civilization from pre-Islamic Central Asia".

50) September 19th-21st 2024: lecture presented at the Beijing Culture Forum 2024, Beijing (China). Paper title: "Sogdian astrological elements in Dunhuang paintings".