

# JOURNAL OF ICON STUDIES

VOLUME I

Raoul N. Smith, Editor



MUSEUM OF RUSSIAN ICONS

203 Union Street . Clinton . Massachusetts

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Please visit the journal's web site at [www. http://museumofrussianicons.org/research/](http://museumofrussianicons.org/research/)

Front and Back Covers: Detail from *Resurrection and Descent*, c1650, Museum of Russian Icons

## FROM THE EDITOR

As the only museum in the United States dedicated to the collection and exhibition of icons, the Museum of Russian Icons in Clinton, Massachusetts, established the Center for Icon Studies in 2012 to support research in iconology and iconography. We are pleased to introduce a print version of the first compilation of papers from its online *Journal of Icon Studies*.

The research presented here covers a variety of topics, from the analysis of specific iconographic elements in icons, such as identifying new elements in traditional icons, to a philosophical inquiry on the representation of the divine. Each contributing researcher has a different perspective and level of experience in the field, from Engelina Smirnova, the doyenne of iconographic studies in Russia, to Diana Dukhanova, a graduate student at Brown University.

The editorial goal of the *Journal of Icon Studies* is to continue to expand the topics espoused in the Center for Icon Studies mission statement to encompass every aspect of religious icons and iconography—geographical, art historical, philosophical, social or religious—and we challenge our future contributors to broaden the type and scope of research to appeal to the widest range of readers.

We hope that this publication will encourage the submission of original research—by both experts and novices in the field—to the *Journal of Icon Studies* that advances our understanding and appreciation of this centuries-old religious tradition and art form.

Raoul Smith is Professor Emeritus of Computer and Information Science at Northeastern University and former Professor of Linguistics and of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Northwestern University. He is a Research Fellow at the Museum of Russian Icons and head of the Editorial Board for the *Journal of Icon Studies*.

Raoul N. Smith  
Editor  
*Journal of Icon Studies*

## ABOUT THE JOURNAL OF ICON STUDIES

The Museum of Russian Icons established the Center for Icon Studies and the *Journal of Icon Studies* to promote the academic study of Russian icons and to publish new and important research relating to them in a more timely and efficient manner than the usual print outlets.

Members of the community are encouraged to submit original research papers in all fields of iconography. Submissions will be reviewed by the Center's Editorial Board, and when approved, will be published on the site.

Please call 978.598.5000 Ext. 24 or email [research@museumofrussianicons.org](mailto:research@museumofrussianicons.org) for questions and guidelines.

### **What We Publish**

The Museum of Russian Icons has dedicated a part of its website to the online publication of peer-reviewed research in all areas of religious icons.

The goal of the Center for Icon Studies is to be a leader in the publication of such research. The areas of interest that we support are the history of icons, art criticism, social studies of icons, theological considerations in the development of icons, comparative studies across regional and national boundaries, the study of miniatures and their relation to icons, studies of icons in various media, paleographical and other aspects of the writing on icons, issues in the conservation of icons, and many other topics.

In addition to scholarly research papers, the Center publishes book reviews that touch upon icons and icon exhibition reviews. We also post conference announcements covering aspects of icon studies. And, the Center provides research tools to aid in the study of icons.

The Center for Icon Studies website also publishes papers by Museum affiliated researchers and by external scholars commissioned by the Museum. Unlike the submissions to the *Journal of Icon Studies*, these contributions, although solid research, are not refereed. It is a perfect outlet for short papers or for reporting preliminary results of research, on any topic in the field of religious icons. These are published on the Center's website under Occasional Papers.

For more information see [www.museumofrussianicons.org/research](http://www.museumofrussianicons.org/research)

# HOW TO CONTRIBUTE TO ICON RESEARCH

## **Submission & Editorial Process**

Contributions to the Journal of Icon Studies are solicited in all areas of icon research. Submissions, and any questions about submissions, should be made in electronic form to [research@museumofrussianicons.org](mailto:research@museumofrussianicons.org). The Journal of Icon Studies follows editing practices of The Chicago Manual of Style, including the transliteration of Russian Cyrillic characters.

## **Peer Review**

All submitted articles are given an initial review by the Editor of the Journal of Icon Studies. This initial evaluation is guided by the following criteria:

- The language of the proposed article is English or Russian.
- The material is original and important.
- The writing is grammatically correct and clear.
- The data are appropriate to the topic and factually correct.
- The conclusions are reasonable and clearly supported by the data.
- The topic has general interest to the icon research community.

Based on these criteria, the Editor assesses the paper's initial eligibility for publication. If a manuscript does not satisfy all these criteria, it is rejected and notice sent to the author. If the manuscript satisfies most of these criteria, it is sent to three members of the Editorial Board with knowledge of the topic of the submission. They may, in turn, submit it to outside reviewers. The identity of the specific reviewers is kept confidential from the author(s) just as author identities are kept confidential from the reviewers. Reviewers are required to maintain confidentiality about the manuscripts they review and must not divulge any information about a specific manuscript or its contents to anyone not involved in the review process.

## **Editing**

If the manuscript is accepted as is, the author is so notified and the publication process is begun. If it is accepted with revisions, the manuscript is returned to the author for revision with reviewer comments. Authors are responsible for all statements made in their work, including changes made during editing. The final form rests in the hands of the Editor of the Journal after consultation with the author and reviewers. The finished product will appear exactly as in a printed publication, but, when appropriate, with added features available only on an online site.

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