

## The World of Kosmas

The *Christian Topography* is the only extant Greek treatise both written and illustrated in the sixth century, although known only through later copies. Taking inspiration from East Syrian exegesis, the treatise transforms the heritage of classical cosmography into a new, Christian image of the universe. Because images are an inherent part of the argument, the *Christian Topography* offers a unique insight into how the relationship between word and image was constructed and how the potential of these two media was understood. Until now, however, the text and illustrations have almost always been discussed separately. Consequently the unity of the work has been disrupted and our understanding of the treatise distorted. Taking into consideration both the text and the miniatures, this book seeks to further our understanding of the *Christian Topography* and its intellectual milieu, and to clarify the role of the images in late antique polemics.

MAJA KOMINKO manages the cultural portfolio of the Arcadia Fund, a foundation working for endangered culture and nature. She has studied, taught and researched at universities in Poland, Italy, the United Kingdom, Turkey, the United States and Sweden. Her published articles cover a range of subjects from late antique intellectual history, art history and cartography, to cultural exchange in the medieval period in the Levant, particularly as documented in illustrated Syriac manuscripts.

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Illustrated Byzantine Codices of the  
*Christian Topography*

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## Note to the reader

The final manuscript of this book was completed and submitted in 2010. Unfortunately, problems with sourcing some of the images have caused a substantial delay in publication. The author has sought to update the bibliography as far as possible, but no major changes after 2010 have been possible.

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## Abbreviations

CSCO	Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium
CT	<i>Christian Topography</i>
DACL	<i>Dictionnaire d'archéologie chrétienne et de liturgie</i>
L	Laurentianus Pluteus IX.28
LIMC	<i>Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae</i>
LSJ	H. G. Liddell and J. R. Scott, <i>Greek–English Lexicon</i> , Oxford, 1996
LXX	Septuagint
MEFRA	<i>Mélanges de l'École française de Rome</i>
PG	Patrologia Graeca
PL	Patrologia Latina
PO	Patrologia Orientalis
PTS	Patristische Texte und Studien
RE	<i>Realencyclopädie der Classischen Altertumswissenschaft</i> (Pauly–Wissowa)
S	Sinaiticus gr. 1186
SC	Sources Chrésiennes
TAPA	<i>Transactions of the American Philological Association</i>
Vat	Vaticanus gr. 699