SACRED PLACES of the MEDITERRANEAN

Aboard the All-Suite, 57-Cabin Corinthian II
October 27–November 8, 2010

SPECIAL SAVINGS
- REDUCED RATES
- NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

See Inside
**GUEST LECTURERS**

**Marsh McCall** is a professor of Classics at Stanford University. He received his PhD in Classics at Harvard in 1965 and subsequently taught at Harvard, Johns Hopkins, and UC Berkeley. Since his arrival at Stanford in 1976, he has served as chairman of the Classics Department, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, and chairman of the Western Culture Program committee. Through his onboard lectures and on-site readings of classical authors, Professor McCall will discuss the ancient sites we visit. As Professor McCall says, “The ancient world has been my life for more than 50 years, and I’m always eager to talk about its endless fascination...What makes the trips so intensely rewarding is being able to stand on site and read in translation some of the passages from the great works of antiquity that belong to that location.”

**Cynthia W. Shelmerdine**, lecturer for the Archaeological Institute of America, is Robert M. Armstrong Centennial Professor Emerita in the Classics Department at The University of Texas at Austin. Her specialty is the Aegean Bronze Age, particularly Mycenaean Greece. An expert on both archaeological material and the written evidence of the Linear B documents, Professor Shelmerdine has published extensively on the history and culture of prehistoric Greece and Crete. She is widely traveled in Greece and Turkey, and since 2003 has lectured on two voyages in the region. She looks forward to returning this fall for a grand survey of sacred places in the eastern Mediterranean. Professor Shelmerdine’s lectures will include a comparison of the ways Minoans, Greeks, and Egyptians envisioned and worshipped their deities; and explore how Greece and Crete traded with and learned from the cultures of Egypt and Cyprus during the Bronze Age.
Dear Fellow Columbian,

The Columbia Alumni Association—the free, no RSVP-required association of all University alumni—keeps you connected to the intellectual and social network of Columbia University. The CAA Travel Study Program is an integral part of that mission, and is your ticket to discover many of the Sacred Places of the Mediterranean. Join alumni, family, and friends from October 27 – November 8, 2010 for a voyage of singular magnificence that will take you where myths originated, and to the sites where the columns and mosaics marking their Olympic heritage still stand.

We’ll board the all-suite Corinthian II in Istanbul and sail to Chios to discover the glorious Byzantine mosaics at Nea Moni monastery. Marvel at the glorious architecture of Greco-Roman landmarks in Ephesus or see the Temple of Apollo in Didyma, and pay homage to the birthplace of Apollo, Artemis, and Zeus. On Rhodes, climb to the acropolis of Lindos with its sacred Temple of Athena, and on Cyprus explore the remarkable Greek, Roman, and Byzantine monuments at Paphos. Our remarkable journey concludes in Egypt’s fabled Alexandria, founded by Alexander the Great in 332 B.C., one of the greatest cities of the ancient world.

The intellectual and social connections offered by your alma mater have never been more relevant than today, so if you seek a journey into history, one that will enrich your mind and spark your imagination, don’t miss this opportunity to join the CAA, and like-minded travelers from peer institutions as we sail aboard Corinthian II this fall and experience the Sacred Places of the Mediterranean.

Sincerely,

Donna H. MacPhee ’89CC
Vice President for Alumni Relations
President, Columbia Alumni Association

P.S. For further information on this program, or any other journeys offered by the Columbia Alumni Association, visit our website at http://alumni.Columbia.edu/Travel
**ITINERARY**

**Wednesday, October 27, 2010 • USA**

**Thursday, October 28 • ISTANBUL, TURKEY • EMBARK**

Arrive in Istanbul and transfer to Corinthian II. *(D)*

**Friday, October 29 • CHIOS, GREECE**

Awake this morning in Chios, the Greek island claiming to be Homer’s birthplace. The island’s volcanic rock formations and deep green valleys forge a landscape of stunning color oppositions and intricate appearances.

Visit the 11th-century Monastery of Nea Moni, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most important ecclesiastical monuments in Greece. The Monastery sits majestically in a wooded vale and is decorated throughout with exquisite frescoes and mosaics. *(B, L, D)*

**Saturday, October 30 • DELOS, CYCLADIC ISLANDS • KUSADASI, TURKEY**

Pursued by the vengeful Hera, Zeus’s mistress Leto fled to Delos, the “wandering island” which drifted across the Aegean. Poseidon struck the island with his trident, and anchored it to the ocean floor. Here, Leto gave birth to Apollo and Artemis, in the shade of a date palm, and the island flowered with gold. Today, visit the extraordinary ruins of this sacred island, including the Sanctuary and Temple of Apollo, the Lions of the Sacred Lake, and the Sanctuary of Dionysus. Admire beautiful mosaics in the House of the Trident and other structures dating back as far as the 7th century B.C. In the afternoon, cruise to Kusadasi, Turkey, arriving in the evening. *(B, L, D)*

**Sunday, October 31 • KUSADASI • EPHESUS OR PRIENE & DIDYMA • KUSADASI**

From Kusadasi, drive in the morning to the ancient city of Ephesus. Settled since the middle of the 2nd millennium B.C., the city was renowned for its great mother goddess, Cybele, later identified as Artemis, or Diana of the Ephesians. In the late 4th century, Ephesus entered a period of extraordinary prosperity and was for a time the most important commercial city in Asia Minor. The immense Hellenistic and Roman excavation site includes the ancient theater, the imposing library of Celsus, the hill houses with their fantastic mosaics and frescoes, early Byzantine, and other remains. Alternatively, drive to Didyma, known in antiquity for its oracle and the immense Temple of Apollo.

Spend the afternoon at leisure in Kusadasi or visit Priene, a 4th-century B.C. city founded in a spectacular setting. *(B, L, D)*

**Monday, November 1 • HERAKLION • KNOSSOS • HERAKLION, CRETE, GREECE**

The birthplace of Zeus, Crete also gave birth to Europe’s first civilization, the Minoan. The brilliance and refinement of the Minoans can be seen on a morning tour of the Palace of Knossos, a maze of chambers, staircases, corridors, and courtyards. In the afternoon, take a walking tour of Heraklion and visit the Heraklion Archaeological Museum’s temporary exhibit. Alternatively, take a full-day excursion to the Diktaian Cave, an impressive cavern that commands a fantastic view of the plain below, where, according to legend, Zeus was born. The excursion will also give the opportunity to explore the spectacular countryside of Crete, including the traditional villages of Tzermiado and Aghios Georgios, and the 15th-century monastery of Kera Kardiotissa. *(B, L, D)*

**Tuesday, November 2 • RHODES • LINDOS • RHODES**

Associated with the Sun God, Helios, since early antiquity, Rhodes saw the zenith of its prosperity during the 4th – 1st centuries B.C., when it was a powerful naval state, and a center of learning and the arts. The famed Colossus stood at the city’s harbor at that time. From the 14th – 16th centuries, the island was under the Knights Hospitallers of St. John, who left a strong mark, as we will see during our morning tour of the Old Town, one of Europe’s best-preserved medieval towns. In the afternoon, drive to Lindos, whose acropolis on a huge rock is crowned by the Temple of Athena, and overlooks the sea and the white-washed village. *(B, L, D)*

**Wednesday, November 3 • PAPHOS, CYPRUS**

After a morning at sea, arrive in Cyprus, where, according to myth, Aphrodite rose from the sea. Land at Paphos and tour the city’s ancient remains, including the Roman houses with their spectacular mosaics. Notable is the House of Dionysos,
Known as Memphis in ancient times, Cairo has been Egypt’s most important city since 3100 b.c. Visit the renowned Egyptian Museum, a repository of the finest antiquities, including finds from the tomb of Tutankhamun. In Giza, see the famed Sphinx and Pyramids, still among the wonders of the world. Drive to the ancient necropolis of Saqqara, a vast burial ground dominated by Egypt’s first pyramid, the Step Pyramid of Zoser. Visit Memphis to see the colossal portrait sculpture of Ramses II. Also spend time exploring Old Cairo and the Khan el Khalili market.

Included: Two nights at the Four Seasons Residence Hotel; guided sightseeing and excursions; breakfast daily and two lunches; group transfers; Rates: $995 per person, double occupancy; $335 single supplement

Thursday, November 4 • AT SEA (B, L, D)

Friday, November 5 & Saturday, November 6 • ALEXANDRIA | SIWA OASIS | ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT
On the morning of November 5th, arrive in Alexandria, Egypt’s main Mediterranean port and metropolis, for an overnight air excursion to the famed Siwa Oasis, site of the oracular Temple of Amun. Of ancient Egyptian origin, during the Hellenistic period, the Greeks identified Amun with the cult of Zeus. In 331 b.c., Alexander the Great made a pilgrimage to the temple. During our stay in this unique and seldom-visited place, we will explore the Temple of Amun, located in the old town of Aghurmi, and visit a host of other fascinating archeological sites, including the mud-brick fortress Shali, the Temple of the Dead, the Temple of Umm Ubayd, and Cleopatra’s Bath. We will also enjoy a drive by 4x4 vehicles into the sublime dunes of the Great Sand Sea – where the opportunity to swim in the tiny oasis of Bir Wahid will be offered, and tea will be served as the sun sets over rolling sands. Overnight accommodations will be at the Siwa Shali Resort. Return to Alexandria in the afternoon of November 6th to reboard the Corinthian II. Overnight aboard docked in Alexandria. (B, L, D)

Sunday, November 7 • ALEXANDRIA | DISEMBARK | CAIRO
Disembark in the morning to tour Alexandria, one of the great cities of the ancient world, founded by Alexander the Great in 332 b.c. Visit the city’s ancient remains as well as its spectacular Bibliotheca Alexandrina and the National Archaeological Museum. After lunch, drive to the Fairmont Towers Heliopolis in Cairo for an overnight stay. (B, L)

Monday, November 8 • CAIRO | USA
Transfer to the airport for return flights to the U.S. (B)
AN EXCEPTIONAL VALUE FOR THE TIMES

Now more than ever, a cultural or an expedition voyage can be an antidote to these changing times, but we recognize the need for increased incentives. That is why, for this exceptional voyage, our tour operator, Travel Dynamics International, is offering unprecedented incentives, including rates that are substantially lower than our normal prices as well as waiving the single supplement for solo travelers. Lowering the prices, however, does not mean that we have compromised the quality and standards of our operation, or that we have taken away services and arrangements we normally include. The voyage prices still include the excursions and special shore events; transfers from the airport to the ship (and vice versa) are provided; wine is served with meals aboard; and the open-bar policy is continued. And the operating standards of our ships are among the highest in the industry. We urge you to take advantage of the lower prices and other incentives we are presenting. We will deliver to you an experience of a lifetime.

CORINTHIAN II

In an era of mega cruise ships that carry thousands of passengers, the Corinthian II is a delightful alternative. More like a private yacht than a cruise ship, Corinthian II accommodates only 114 guests in 57 suites. Corinthian II’s limited guest capacity, fine facilities, and distinctive style of operation attract like-minded travelers who return again and again to enjoy its custom-crafted itineraries and a style of cruising that is rarely found today. More than just a cruise, each voyage provides a comprehensive experience that reveals the singular aspects of the destinations. Aboard, a sense of community and a spirit of camaraderie prevail.

Cruise and Land Rates | per person, double occupancy

All accommodations aboard Corinthian II are suites. They face outside, affording sea views, and several have balconies with sliding doors. All include two twin-size beds that can convert to a queen-size bed, sitting area, mini-refrigerator, safe, spacious closets, climate control, telephone, TV, DVD/CD player, and bathroom with marble vanity, shower, and other amenities.

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<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>REGULAR RATES</th>
<th>REDUCED RATES</th>
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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Magellan Deck with portholes and sitting area. 225 sq. ft. Suites 250 - 252</td>
<td>$9,495</td>
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<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Magellan Deck with portholes and sitting area. 235 sq. ft. Suites 254 - 262</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Marco Polo Deck with forward and side windows and sitting area. 285 sq. ft. Suites 414 - 415</td>
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<td>VS</td>
<td>Deluxe Veranda Suites on Erickson Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 300 sq. ft. Suites 505 - 512</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHS</td>
<td>Deluxe Penthouse Suites on Explorer Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 400 sq. ft. Suites 601 - 604</td>
<td>$18,495</td>
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VS & PHS suites are provided with private butler service and other exclusive amenities.

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: A limited number of cabins have been designated for single travelers in Categories D - A at no supplement to the per person, double occupancy rates above. Singles in Categories AA, VS, and PHS are available at double the per person, double occupancy rates.

Airfare: Airfare is not included in the Cruise and Land Rates. Please contact your preferred airline, travel agent, or the Travel Dynamics International air desk operated by Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc. (VWTI) for airfare information and to reserve flights. Consultants are available Monday – Friday from 9:00 am – 5:30 pm (EST) toll-free at 1-877-711-9896. Please have your tour code (10428) handy for reference.
All of *Corinthian II*’s suites face outside, providing views of the sea and landscape. Several have a private balcony. There are expansive open deck areas and other facilities, including a gym, library, beauty salon, two lounges, a sun deck with Jacuzzi, and an outdoor cafe. A spacious restaurant accommodates all guests in an open, unassigned seating. The cuisine is outstanding, and the overall service is efficient and friendly while unobtrusive. An elevator serves all decks. A resident physician attends a well-equipped infirmary.

Served by 70 seasoned officers and crew, *Corinthian II* complies with the latest international safety regulations and is outfitted with the most current navigational technology.

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**REGISTRATION**

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for $______($1,000 per person) as a deposit to hold ______ place(s) on *Sacred Places of the Mediterranean*. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure.

Please make check payable to: *Travel Dynamics International* and mail with this registration form to: *Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program*, 245 Mill St., 2nd Floor, Greenwich, CT 06830 (Or, fax to 203-724-0844)

Phone: 866-3-ALUMNI (866-325-8664)  
E-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu  
Website: www.alumni.columbia.edu/Travel

- [x] AmEx  - [ ] Discover  - [ ] Visa  - [ ] MasterCard

No. ___________________________________  
Exp. _______ 3- or 4-Digit Security Code _______

Please select cabin category in order of preference:  

- [ ] PHS__  - [ ] AA__  - [ ] VS__  - [ ] A__  - [ ] B__  - [ ] C__  - [ ] D__  - [ ] E__

- [ ] Twin Beds  - [ ] Double Bed  
- [ ] Single Occupancy  - [ ] Share  (Cannot be guaranteed.)

- [ ] Please book me/us on the optional post-cruise extension in Cairo Nov. 8-10, 2010

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*Each participant must sign below: We have read the “General Information” section and agree to its terms.*

**SIGNATURE**  **DATE**

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**AmEx**  **Discover**  **Visa**  **MasterCard**
GENERAL INFORMATION

PAYMENTS: A $1,000 deposit per person is required to confirm your reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure & must be by personal check.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations are subject to a $400 per person fee. Cancellations received 61-90 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty of 50% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received within 60 days of departure are subject to a 100% penalty.

INSURANCE: We recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. Details will be sent upon registration.

ITINERARY: The itinerary, accommodations, and arrangements are subject to change. We cannot guarantee the size of the Columbia group. We reserve the right to cancel or substitute lecturers.

SHIP'S REGISTRY: Malta CST #204 3599-40 TDI

DUE TO SPACE LIMITATIONS, THIS IS ABBREVIATED INFORMATION. PLEASE CONTACT US FOR COMPLETE TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

For further information about this travel program, please contact the Columbia University Alumni Travel Study Program. You may reach us toll-free at 866-325-8664. Fax: 203-724-0844

E-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu
Website: www.alumni.columbia.edu/travel

Photo: Giza, Egypt